

ROYAL LANE BAPTIST CHURCH

Diverse People United in Christ

June 3, 2020

The Mosaic

Volume 34, Issue 11

Giving Life through Blood and Food

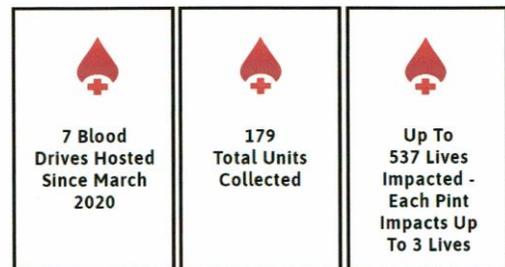
Dallas County reported 257 new COVID-19 cases and 16 deaths on Tuesday of this week, a record high for both of those figures. For reference, the previous record high of new cases was 253 with 14 deaths. Where do we find life? When 106,000 people have died nationally from COVID-19 and the effects of racism continue to squeeze the life out of black and brown communities, where do we find life? We find life in both expected and unexpected places. Life is found when my friend moved his porch security camera to watch a hanging flower basket with a nest full of baby birds. Life is found as I go to Amanda's hospital room, put my hand on her belly, and feel my baby boy give me a fist bump. Life is found when anti-racist allies pound the pavement, marching passionately and nonviolently for all of God's beloved children. Yes, life can be found in the midst of death.

When COVID-19 hit Dallas, Royal Lane closed its doors but didn't stop being church. Due to the closing of schools and businesses, the Red Cross became critically low on blood and needed to find a central location that was safe for donors. Alayna Moncada, Donor Recruitment Account Manager for the Dallas Red Cross, reached out to me, asking for Royal Lane to be a weekly location for blood donations. We recently concluded those weekly blood drives and this was a statement given to me by Alayna. "From March to May, your community has impacted up to 537 lives. Royal Lane Baptist is by far my most impactful partnership throughout COVID-19. I cannot thank you enough for your continued support." Moving forward, we will be a monthly donor location on June 16, July 21, and August 18. You can sign up to donate at our blood drive by going to [RedCrossBlood.org](https://www.RedCrossBlood.org) and entering the sponsor keyword "royallanebaptist" on the calendar.

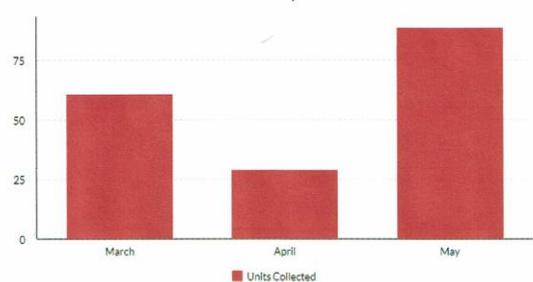
Another way Royal Lane has sought to bring life and breath during COVID-19 was by partnering with Everyone Eatz, a local food distribution organization created by restaurateur Ram Mehta, a Sikh, and Imam Azhar Subedar, a Muslim. Everyone Eatz and Royal Lane partnered to distribute 10,000 meals to people in need. Memorial Day was chilly and rainy, but a dozen Royal Lane volunteers along with interfaith leaders gave out thousands of meals and took the remaining food to a Sudanese refugee community. Royal Lane members contributed over \$3,300.00 to hire police officers for the event and purchase 1,100 of those 10,000 meals. Many people found life through much needed food because of our efforts.

Royal Lane Baptist Church

American Red Cross Blood Drive Sponsor Since 2020



Collections by Month



(continued, page 2)

The next issues of The Mosaic are scheduled for June 17 & July 1, 2020. The deadline for submissions will be 5:00 p.m. Monday prior to the date of publication.

And finally, our communities of color need to know that we, as a predominately white congregation, support, affirm, and value the lives of those affected by racism. Harry Wooten is leading the staff in creating a service of lament to mourn in solidarity with our black sisters and brothers. The Social Justice Team is working on compiling educational resources so we can learn how to be anti-racist and partner with black congregations in our community.

We are in a liminal moment in our country's story and we, as people of faith, are being called to find life in the midst of death. I think a place to start is to realize that blood and food connect each and every one of us.

Pastor Mike



Drive-By Graduation Celebrating RLBC Graduates

This month, we celebrate the graduations of two of our youth—Michael Robinson and Samuel Quesada. Please help us congratulate our two high school graduates by participating in our “drive-by” graduation celebration this Saturday morning.

Decorate your cars, write your graduation cards, and join us for the fun! (You will have the opportunity to deposit your cards as you drive by each house.)

SATURDAY, JUNE 6, 2020

- 10:30 AM - Meet at Dan D. Rogers Elementary School (south parking lot - off of E. Lover's Lane) @ 5314 Abrams Rd, Dallas, TX 75214
- 10:45 AM - Depart for Robinson home - after passing by, please proceed to the next staging location
- 11:15 AM - Meet at Kessler Park United Methodist Church @ 1215 Turner Ave, Dallas, TX 75208
- 11:30 AM - Depart for Quesada home

We look forward to seeing you there!

Tim

IN FOCUS

Wednesday, June 17, 6:30 pm – Livestream

Beloved Community: COVID-19 – Hearing from Our RLBC Frontline Medical Professionals

Coming Events

Sunday	June 7 – Trinity Sunday
10:55 am	Morning Worship — Virtual Worship
3:00 pm	Foundation Stones — Zoom
4:00 pm	Formations Class — Zoom
Tuesday	June 9
12:00 pm	Pastor's Book Group – “Take This Bread” by Sara Miles — Zoom
Wednesday	June 10
6:30 pm	Midweek Bible Study — Zoom
7:30 pm	Sanctuary Choir — Zoom with UPUMC
Friday	June 12
12:00 pm	Midday Meditative Prayer — Zoom
Saturday	June 13
10:00 am	Women's Share & Prayer — Zoom
2:00 pm	Questers Class — Zoom
8:00 pm	Non-Traditional Class — Zoom
Sunday	June 14 – Second Sunday after Pentecost
10:55 am	Morning Worship — Virtual Worship Awarding of Lowes Scholarships
3:00 pm	Foundation Stones — Zoom
4:00 pm	Formations Class — Zoom
Tuesday	June 16
12:00 pm	Pastor's Book Group – “Take This Bread” by Sara Miles — Zoom
Wednesday	June 17 – Mosaic
6:30 pm	IN FOCUS – Beloved Community: COVID-19 Hearing from Our RLBC Frontline Medical Professionals — Livestream
7:30 pm	Sanctuary Choir — Zoom with UPUMC
Friday	June 19
12:00 pm	Midday Meditative Prayer — Zoom
Saturday	June 20
10:00 am	Women's Share & Prayer — Zoom
2:00 pm	Questers Class — Zoom
8:00 pm	Non-Traditional Class — Zoom

*The deadline for the order of service, the Midweek, and the Mosaic is Monday, 5:00 p.m. prior to publication.
“Like” RLBC on Facebook or “Follow” RLBC on Twitter*

**Please be in prayer for Family & Friends of
Dennis Turnbull
on the death of his mother
Wilma Turnbull
May 27, 2020, at the age of 98**

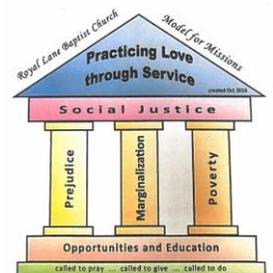
She left 3 grandchildren, 4 great-grandchildren, and 7 great-great-grandchildren.
She will be interred with her husband at DFW National Cemetery.
We pray for Dennis and all of the family as they grieve and remember fondly her long life.

Missions Matters

Royal Lane has a long history of answering God's call to love through service. “Missions Matters” will appear in the Mosaic on a regular basis. It will highlight our continuing commitment to missions and other matters where we reach out to the community. This will be a place where we will tell our stories and perhaps help you find what “matters” most to you.

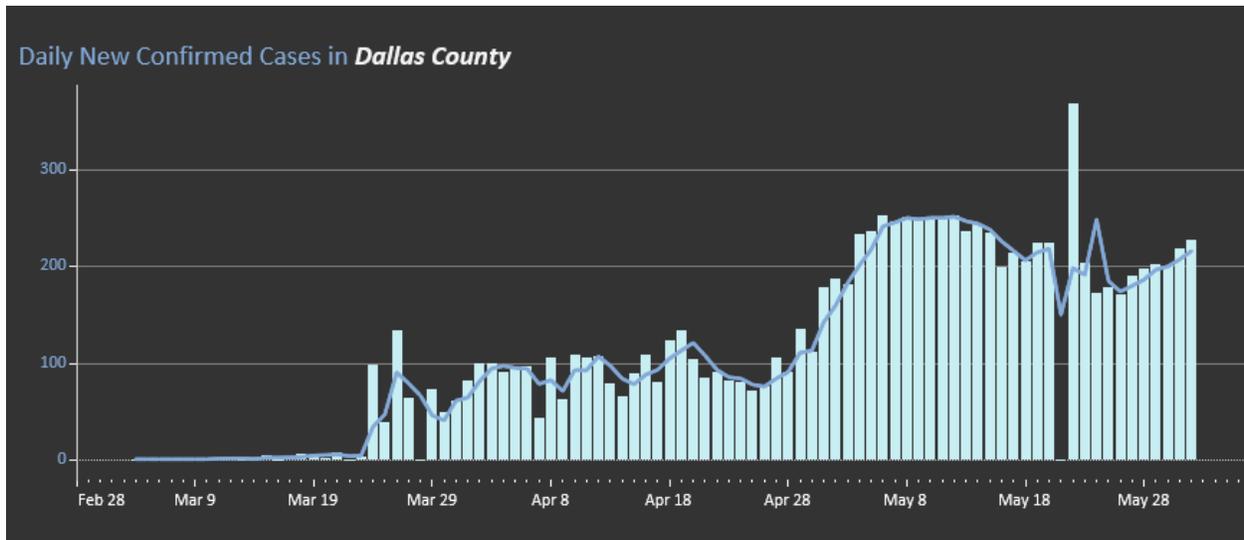
Karen Miller would like YOUR story!

Volunteer Story Forms available online at <http://royallane.org/missions/>



From Your Reopening Task Force

“So, my nephew was having a birthday party and we were celebrating one of my cousin’s graduation Friday night. I brought a mask, but no one else was wearing one, so I didn’t wear one because, you know, we are family. There were about 25 people there including my one cousin and her baby. She and I hugged each other and I held and played with her baby. She kinda had a runny nose and she was complaining of allergies. The next day she started having a fever and she went to the doctor. It took about 6 days to get her test results but today, she was told she tested positive for COVID-19. My cousin had traveled about 2 weeks ago but she was not sick until the day after the party.”



The scenario above is a real scenario, repeated every day. We all miss each other and we are tired of physical distance. The graph above is one metric I use as an indicator of when we might be able to open the RLBC sanctuary for Sunday services. But there are challenges to understanding what the information is telling us.

When we look at the number of new cases diagnosed, what do we see? We see the behaviors of people about 3 weeks ago. So the number of new cases reflects the behaviors of people on May 13. Governor Abbott started opening the state on May 1. Daily New Confirmed Cases is a 3-week trailing indicator of COVID-19 activity in the county because from exposure to illness is typically 14 days and from illness to testing results another 7 or more days creating the cases on June 3. It takes 3 cycles of 3 weeks to provide a clear statistical trend.

What we want to see is a consistent downward turn in the number of new cases (3 cycles of 3 weeks or 9 weeks) before we can feel good about opening the sanctuary. This sounds like a long time. It is. And, we want to be safe.

When the reopening begins, it will be in the sanctuary with reduced seating capacity, social distancing, masks, hand sanitizer/handwashing and meticulous sanitizing regimens for the building. Family groups will sit together as we are generally immune to the “germ pool” of those with whom we live or have frequent encounters. With this said, each person with whom we interact has many others they interact with and each of those have still more contacts. The smaller our germ pool, the less likely we are to become infected.

Until this is really settled down, all services currently offered online will continue. The Task force is aware of the needs of some parishioners with regard to technology. We are concerned and working on potential solutions or ways to mitigate the impact.

COVID-19 – Trends by County: <https://bit.ly/2U3J8v2>

COVID-19 Projections: <https://bit.ly/2U3JpOA>

James Luckett, Melissa Walker-Luckett on behalf of the Reopening Task Force

Terry Berrier, Alan Greider, Harry Hunter, Greg King, Bettie Meachum, Sandy Washington, Cathy Webb and Jacquie Wooten and a special thank you to the ladies sewing cloth masks.

Deacons of the Week

June 7

Charlotte Sewell
Amy Ward-Meier

June 14

Paulette Harrison
Cathy Walling

All In-Person Midweek Services & Fellowship Meals Temporarily Suspended

June 10

Midweek Bible Study

with Mike Gregg

Zoom — 898-5373-0279

June 17

IN FOCUS

Beloved Community: COVID-19

Hearing from Our RLBC

Frontline Medical Professionals

Watch Livestream



The Box Gallery
is
temporarily closed.

To change mail or email preferences for *The Mosaic*,
contact Barbara Merry, bmerry@royallane.org.

Scriptures of the Week

June 7

Genesis 1:1-2:4a

Psalm 8

2 Corinthians 13:11-13

Matthew 28:16-20

June 14

Genesis 18:1-5 (21:1-7)

Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19

Romans 5:1-8

Matthew 9:35-10:8 (9-23)

April 2020 Financials

Revenues*	\$339,163
Expenses	\$248,744
Surplus (Deficit)	\$90,419

*Includes annual pledges paid up front in full.

Text "GIVE" to 214-609-1200

Follow the prompts to complete the process.

Standard text message rates may apply.

Donate online at royallane.org/give/
Online Giving

Happy Birthday!

June

Jim Rainbolt-Bailey	3
Socorro Gonzalez	5
Linda Cross	6
Raymond Arnsward.....	7
Kirsten Fleenor.....	8
Blake Miller	8
Sandy Washington	8
Bailey Brown	9
Betty Garrett.....	9
Amy Stewart.....	10
Steven Rhodes.....	10
Bill Ferguson.....	12
Jessica McKinzie-Waldrop	14
Joe Hill	16



Royal Lane Baptist Church

6707 Royal Lane
Dallas, Texas 75230-4145

ROYAL LANE BAPTIST CHURCH

Diverse People United in Christ

The Mosaic is published twice a month

Office Hours:

Monday - Friday: 9:00 am - 5:00 pm

Wednesday Midweek: 6:15 pm

Sunday School: 9:45 am

Sunday Worship: 10:55 am

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Michael Gregg, Pastor
Laura Keller, Minister to Children
Jonah Hammett, Video Technician
Barbara Merry, Administrative Assistant
Samuel Quesada, Video Technician

Tim Schaefer, Minister to Youth
Janet Schultz; Administrative Assistant
Blake Vickrey, Sound Technician
Ray Vickrey, Pastor Emeritus
David Weigle, Organist
Harry Wooten, Minister of Music and Worship