



ROYAL LANE BAPTIST CHURCH

Diverse People United in Christ

August 5, 2020

The Mosaic

Volume 34, Issue 15

All of the Angels

When Amanda was on antepartum bedrest at Baylor University Medical Center in downtown Dallas, our daughters were not allowed to visit her because of restrictions due to COVID-19. The hospital was on lockdown and they could only see her by using FaceTime. They missed her terribly, as did I. So, you can imagine that when presented with an opportunity to be somewhat physically close to Amanda, the girls jumped at it. On May 6th, the Blue Angels executed a flyover of BUMC and other local hospitals to honor first responders and medical workers. I loaded Annaleigh and Bea into the car and headed to the top floor of one of Baylor's garages to get a good look at the iconic planes while hoping to catch a glimpse of Amanda across the street through her hospital room window. We found the roof of the parking deck and began to gather with the nurses and doctors who had come outside to witness the flyover.

As we parked and exited the car, we called Amanda on the phone to see if she could see us from her window. Surprised and overwhelmed, she saw us on the parking deck and we were able to wave at her as we talked and sobbed on the phone. The Blue Angels eventually made two passes directly over the parking deck, smoke barreling from their tails to salute the medical personnel gathered below. Cheering and clapping ensued! The Blue Angels, the angels of medicine, my angelic daughters, and Amanda, a warrior mama angel, were all messengers of God's care, concern, joy, and divine love that day. As an added bonus, Amanda's favorite nurse took advantage of the hustle and bustle at the hospital and was able to race Amanda, tucked safely in a wheelchair, downstairs to the sidewalk outside Labor & Delivery. The girls and I met her there. Those five minutes were the only time Annaleigh and Bea were able to love on their mama during her 6-week in-hospital stay. That amazing nurse, Yolanda, is truly an angel.

The word, angel, comes from the Greek ἄγγελος angelos. The literal definition of angel is messenger. Angels were not only heavenly beings, but earthly messengers as well. From this word we get the word euangelion, or Gospel. Can you see the word angel in there? Euangelion means good news. And as we've made our way through Paul's letter to the Roman church on Sundays, we have witnessed Paul's attempt to give some type of good news to those suffering under Roman oppression in the first century world. Paul was giving a gospel message. He was giving good news.

As we continue to hear the negative messages of division and arrogance, it is my hope that we choose to be messengers of good news, of the Gospel. We may be isolated, alone, fearful, and frustrated. The news in the world seems as if it is good for some, but not for all. That is not the message of Paul and it wasn't the good news of Jesus. Let us strive to be messengers of the Divine, bringing not just news, but good news to all of God's people. Angels are all around us if we open our eyes to their messages of love and hope. And we can even be those angels too.

Pastor Mike

*The next issues of The Mosaic are scheduled for August 19 & September 2, 2020.
The deadline for submissions will be 5:00 p.m. Monday prior to the date of publication.*

Finance Update

Our church leadership has responded tremendously to the challenges of operating in this COVID environment, and our church members have stepped up in amazing ways too. On the financial side, pledged giving and plate offerings have remained very strong through the first half of the year.

Thanks to early payments of large pledges, as of the end of June our revenue was \$39,669 above our budgeted expenses for the year. This is great news. However, we are preparing for a decline in overall revenue for the year due to a decrease in typical revenue-generating events, such as the pumpkin patch and church wedding rentals.

Every division at Royal Lane is looking for ways to decrease expenses through the remainder of the year so we can end the year on the same strong financial footing as we started it. I am pleased to say that we are doing this financial belt-tightening while maintaining a commitment to fully pay our staff and meet our commitments to our mission partners.

Thank you for remaining faithful to your financial commitments to Royal Lane during this extraordinarily challenging year. Please feel free to reach out to Ed Meier or anyone on the finance committee should you have any questions or concerns.

Ed Meier, Director

Kelley Keith, Vice Chair

Cheryl Robinson, Melissa Orwig, Cynthia Kupres, and Elwanda Edwards, Finance Committee Members

June 2020 Financials

Revenues*	\$422,803
Expenses	\$383,134
Surplus (Deficit)	\$39,669

*Includes annual pledges paid up front in full.



Let's talk about
WHITE FRAGILITY
WHY IT'S SO HARD
FOR WHITE PEOPLE TO
TALK ABOUT RACISM

VIRTUAL CONVERSATION
EVERY WEDNESDAY | 6:30-8:00 PM
AUGUST 5 - SEPTEMBER 9, 2020
*Space is limited. Registration required.

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL
ROYAL LANE BAPTIST CHURCH
Greenland Hills UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Join us in August and September for our virtual conversation about race and white fragility. Copies of *White Fragility* by Robin DiAngelo are available for purchase online and in the Church Office. Books may be purchased in the Church Office on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons at \$12.00 per copy.

Registration is required, and space is limited. A Zoom link and instructions for joining will be emailed to you after you have completed the registration process.

It's not too late to Register Online at <https://bit.ly/3fNJ0c4>.



Coming Events

Friday	August 7
12:00 pm	Midday Meditative Prayer — Zoom
Saturday	August 8 – Deadline to schedule pickup of large items for Rummage Sale
2:00 pm	4-6 Year Old Saturday School — Zoom
2:00 pm	Questers Class — Zoom
3:00 pm	3rd-5th Grade Saturday School — Zoom
8:00 pm	Non-Traditional Class — Zoom
Sunday	August 9 – Tenth Sunday after Pentecost
9:45 am	Foundation Stones — Zoom
10:00 am	Women’s Share & Prayer — Zoom
10:55 am	Morning Worship — Livestream
3:00 pm	1st-2nd Grade Sunday School — Zoom
4:00 pm	Formations Class — Zoom
7:30 pm	Deacons Meeting — Zoom
Monday	August 10
10:00 am	Rummage Sale Large Item Pickup (10:00 am – 2:00 pm)
Tuesday	August 11
12:00 pm	Pastor’s Book Group — Zoom
Wednesday	August 12
6:30 pm	“White Fragility” — Virtual Conversation (Registration Required)
Friday	August 14
12:00 pm	Midday Meditative Prayer — Zoom
Saturday	August 15
2:00 pm	4-6 Year Old Saturday School — Zoom
2:00 pm	Questers Class — Zoom
3:00 pm	3rd-5th Grade Saturday School — Zoom
8:00 pm	Non-Traditional Class — Zoom
Sunday	August 16 – Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost
9:45 am	Foundation Stones — Zoom
10:00 am	Women’s Share & Prayer — Zoom
10:55 am	Morning Worship — Livestream
3:00 pm	1st-2nd Grade Sunday School — Zoom
4:00 pm	Formations Class — Zoom
Tuesday	August 18
12:00 pm	Pastor’s Book Group — Zoom
Wednesday	August 19
6:30 pm	“White Fragility” — Virtual Conversation (Registration Required)
Friday	August 21
12:00 pm	Midday Meditative Prayer — Zoom
Saturday	August 22
2:00 pm	4-6 Year Old Saturday School — Zoom
2:00 pm	Questers Class — Zoom
3:00 pm	3rd-5th Grade Saturday School — 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

Deacon Recommendation Procedure: This year, because we cannot safely meet in person, we will be suggesting members for nomination to the deacon board in a different way. On Sunday, August 2, we began accepting your suggestions for nomination. You can write your suggestions on paper and mail them to the church, where they will be collected for consideration. If you want to submit your suggestions online, you can do so through a link that was provided in an email sent to members on Sunday, August 2nd. We must receive any suggested names by Friday, August 28th. All names submitted will be gathered and considered by the Member Resource Committee.

Deacon Recommendations

In October, the church will elect six (6) deacons to serve a three (3) year term, and two (2) Deacons to serve a one (1) year unexpired term. They will take office in November.

By-Laws Provisions

Article VIII, 3) "No one shall be eligible for election to the Board of Deacons unless such person has been a member of this Church for at least one (1) year prior to his or her election. Upon completion of a term on the Board of Deacons, no one shall be eligible for re-election to the Board of Deacons until the expiration of one (1) year, provided that this restriction shall not be applicable to any Deacon who has been elected to fill the unexpired term of another Deacon and who has served less than one year of such unexpired term. In order that there not be a conflict of interest (or the appearance of a conflict of interest), no member of the Board of Deacons shall also be a full-time or permanent part-time paid member of the staff of this Church. Only one member of an immediate family of the same household shall be elected to serve on the active board of deacons at the same time. Immediate family includes spouse, domestic partner, child, parent or sibling.

Listed below is the active Board of Deacons. The dates indicate when they will rotate off the Board. **Resigned or moved to reserve status.*

November 2020

Ray Cox
Melanie Ferguson
Paulette Harrison
Harry Hunter
Cathy Webb
Garey Wisdom

November 2021

Margaret Darden
Jeff Hammett*
Karen Miller
Charlotte Sewell
Karen Simmons
Dennis Turnbull*

November 2022

Terry Berrier
Alan Greider
Blake Miller
Sarah Fuller Phillips
Cathy Walling
Amy Ward-Meier

Please consider carefully and prayerfully your recommendations for deacons. Use the spaces below to suggest to the Member Resource Committee your recommendations for deacons.

Your Deacon Recommendations

_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

Nominations are due in the church office by noon on Friday, August 28th.

If you have any questions regarding the recommendation of deacon, please contact either Charlotte Sewell (214-533-7326) or Paulette Harrison (214-577-8058).

Qualifications and Characteristics of a Deacon

When accepting a call to serve as a deacon, the person is accepting a call from the congregation and from God. And so, a deacon is ordained because the ordination of deacons indicates that those serving in this capacity should be believers who are Christ-like, mature in faith, and exercise their office with prayer, patience, trust, and humility. Additionally, serving as a deacon puts that person in a leadership role within the congregation, one that should be modeled as that of a servant. The heart of a deacon's calling is to "lead by serving others" in the church and community, as well as to "lead by equipping church members" to serve in the ongoing ministries of the church.

As a believer in God as revealed through the life and works of Jesus Christ, the deacon must care about the members of Royal Lane, be committed to and support the work of the ministries of the church, and appreciate and embrace the diversity of the congregation. This is achieved through careful listening, a humble attitude, and fervent prayer.

Duties and Responsibilities of a Deacon

- Accepts a 3-year commitment to serve on the Board of Deacons
- Faithfully attends each in person or virtual monthly deacons meeting and participates in discussions honestly and with openness to differing opinions
- Supports Royal Lane financially through pledging and regular giving
- Conscientiously fulfills her/his Deacon of the Week duties (on the assigned week):
 1. Greeting visitors in the narthex following worship
 2. Attend Wednesday evening Midweek Meeting and offering a prayer
 3. Contacting visitors by phone, card, or email to answer any questions they may have about Royal Lane
- Leads a Deacon Ministry Group (DMG) consisting of a small group of congregation members:
 1. Regularly check in with assigned DMG through text, email, phone call, or note.
 2. Let the DMG know of upcoming church events and activities
- Prays for the members of the DMG and shares needs with church staff
- Assists with the introduction and engagement of new members into the life and ministries of Royal Lane
- Actively participates as a member of at least one church committee
- Assists the pastor with the preparation and administration of the church ordinances: communion and baptism

Columbarium Garden

Royal Lane Baptist Church is blessed to have a Columbarium Garden available to its members and loved ones. The first phase of the Columbarium will have 80 niches and we will add an additional 80 in the second phase. Each niche holds two urns and the cost is \$3,000.00 per niche.

The RLBC Columbarium will be nestled in a lovely garden between the Cunningham Arcade, the Sanctuary, and the Library. It is a Spiritual Site that affords Church members, their families, and loved ones the opportunity to have their final resting place surrounded by their Church and faith community, which has been a central part of their lives. You can get more information on the Royal Lane website: click on Connect and scroll down to Columbarium.

To receive a Columbarium Garden Brochure and/or application, leave a message with the Church office at 214-361-2809, ext. 11 or email info@royallane.org.



Royal Lane Missions Fundraiser

churchWIDE RUMMAGE SALE



Have something too big to fit in your car?

There will be a pick-up on Monday, August 10, for larger items between 10:00 am and 2:00 pm. Contact Laura Keller (lkeller@royallane.org) to drop donations at the church, to have donations collected from your home or to donate large items on Monday. **The deadline to schedule a pick-up for Monday is Saturday, August 8.**

Other donations can be scheduled throughout the week. All rummage sale items are accepted (clothing, linen, kitchen, household, baby and children's items, books, tools and garden supplies).

We are posting some items for sale on Facebook Marketplace and pricing and packing others while our new Rummage Sale date is pending. All proceeds will be designated to support future RLBC Mission Trips.



"Having the Spirit of Faith means that we believe Christ has brought a new word." Join royallane.org Sunday, April 9th at 11:00 AM as Rev. Dr. Michael Gregg explores more fully what it means to have A Spirit of Faith. #RLBCLive

Deacons of the Week

August 2
Alan Greider
Harry Hunter

August 9
Charlotte Sewell
Amy Ward-Meier

**All In-Person
Midweek Services
&
Fellowship Meals
Temporarily Suspended**
**6:30 p.m. Wednesday
August 5- September 6**

"White Fragility"
Virtual Conversation
Register Today!



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

August 2
Genesis 32:22-31 Psalm 17:1-7, 15
Romans 9:1-5 Matthew 14:13-21

August 9
Genesis 37:1-4, 12-28
Psalm 105:1-6, 16-22, 45b
Romans 10:5-15 Matthew 14:22-33

Baby News!

Blakely Anne Ragsdale
Born July 28, 2020
To Ashley & Derrick Ragsdale



Happy Birthday!

August

Lisa Chastain	5
David Weigle	6
Donna Wood-Martin	6
Homer Terry	8
Greg Brown	9
Tom Fouse	10
Rodney Macias	12
Ryah Hill	15
Humberto Valtierra	15
Jackson Maddox	18





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

**Royal Lane Baptist Church
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www.royallane.org

Rosa Barrientos, Housekeeping
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