



ROYAL LANE BAPTIST CHURCH

Diverse People United in Christ

January 6, 2021

The Mosaic

Volume 35, Issue 1

The Blessed Light That Comes

The Rev. Jan Richardson has spoken many words of peace into my chaotic soul over the years. I love her deeply artistic faith. She is an artist, poet, author, and ordained minister. And she uses those gifts to shine a light on grief, death, and women's spirituality. These gifts have served her well to not only guide inquisitive seekers, but to help her on her own journey of fear and pain when her husband suddenly died in 2013. She knows well that grief covers us like a blanket and the heaviness keeps us from getting up and moving on our own. The way through the grief is to not force ourselves to get up and get moving towards the divine, but for the divine to search us out and find us in the midst of the pain.

Jan Richardson writes, "I cannot tell you how the light comes. What I know is that it is more ancient than imagining. That it travels across an astounding expanse to reach us. That it loves searching out what is hidden, what is lost, what is forgotten or in peril or in pain. That it has a fondness for the body, for finding its way toward flesh, for tracing the edges of form, for shining forth through the eye, the hand, the heart. I cannot tell you how the light comes, but that it does. That it will. That it works its way into the deepest dark that enfolds you, though it may seem long ages in coming or arrive in a shape you did not foresee. And so, may we this day turn ourselves toward it. May we lift our faces to let it find us. May we bend our bodies to follow the arc it makes. May we open and open more and open still to the blessed light that comes."



And that is why Epiphany might be the most important day of the Christmas season after the truly difficult year we all had. Epiphany, for me, is the light traveling the great expanse to meet us. Epiphany is the convergence of heaven and earth to illuminate and radiate the love of God if we would but lift our faces and see it. The shining light of the divine is not simply a star in the sky. It is the spark in each one of us. It is the joy that overcomes sadness, the hope that overcomes fear, and the life that overcomes death. So, take notice not only of the coming of God's sacrificial love in this new year, but of the divine hope burning within you. For Epiphany is here. May we be open to it. May we be open and more open still to the blessed light that comes.

Pastor Mike

*The next issues of The Mosaic are scheduled for January 20 & February 2, 2021.
The deadline for submissions will be 5:00 p.m. Monday prior to the date of publication.*

Martha Stearns Marshall Day of Preaching February 7, 2021 – Joslyn Henderson

M.Div/M.M. Candidate, Baylor University

Born to Pastor Marty Henderson and First Lady Joyce James-Henderson, Joslyn Henderson has been using her talents to bless God's people from the time she was first able to walk and talk. Growing up as a pastor's kid (or "PK"), Joslyn had no problem getting up to sing in front of church audiences wherever and whenever her father preached. Despite Joslyn's plans to become a doctor, after hearing her sing in the 12th grade, her English teacher enthusiastically encouraged her to study music.

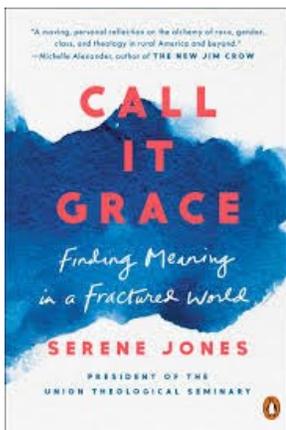
Following her teacher's advice, Joslyn went on to Spelman College that fall to study music. Though she learned the complexities of classical vocalism through her studies and leadership in the Spelman College Glee Club, she never strayed from her gospel roots.

After graduating college, Joslyn completed a term of community service with AmeriCorps. Having learned the importance of giving back to others, she has since taken a full leap into gospel music. She has been studying, writing, and professing her love for music on any stage that will have her.

Joslyn Henderson is currently studying at Baylor University, pursuing graduate degrees in Church Music and Theology. She has served as the Ministry Associate for Worship & Chapel at Baylor, as well as served in many Waco churches as a staff member. In addition, Joslyn is also a proud member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated.



Pastor's Book Group Resumes Tuesday, January 12, 2021, 12:00 pm



Our next book is "Call It Grace: Finding Meaning in a Fractured World" by Serene Jones.

About the Author: Serene Jones is the president of the historic Union Theological Seminary in the City of New York. The first woman to head the 180-year-old institution, Jones occupies the Johnston Family Chair for Religion and Democracy. She is the past president of the American Academy of Religion. Jones came to Union after seventeen years at Yale University, where she was the Titus Street Professor of Theology at the Divinity School, and chair of Women's, Gender and Sexuality Studies at Yale University. Jones is the author of several books including *Trauma and Grace*. She is a child of the Oklahoma plains, a daughter of a university president and a single mother, a sister, a cancer survivor, a theologian, a minister, a news commentator, a public intellectual, and a devoted teacher.

Contact Pastor Mike if you would like to become a part of this group.

Stay Connected in 2021

As we enter a new year, it is important that we continue to be creative in how we connect with one another. I am grateful for a passionate and purposeful staff and leadership that wants to grow people and change this city even in the midst of separation and isolation. I pray this will be a year when Royal Lane members boldly step out in faith to connect with each other, share our celebrations and burdens, and find ways to impact our city and create the Beloved Community in Dallas together. If you need assistance or have questions about our connection options and opportunities, please contact me at mgregg@royallane.org. Here are several ways for us to stay connected in this new year:

Church Website at royallane.org

Deacon Ministry Groups

e360 ChMS Member Database

Facebook, Twitter, Instagram & YouTube Channel

Livestream YouTube Worship & Events

Online or Mailed Mosaic Newsletter

Virtual Sunday School Classes, Care Groups, & Small Groups

Weekly Email Mosaic & Email List

Zoom Gathering Opportunities & Events

Coming Events

Friday	January 8
12:00 pm	Midday Meditative Prayer — Zoom
Saturday	January 9
2:00 pm	Questers Class — Zoom
3:00 pm	3rd-5th Grade Saturday School — Zoom
8:00 pm	Non-Traditional Class — Zoom
Sunday	January 10 – First Sunday after Epiphany / Baptism of the Lord
9:45 am	Foundation Stones — Zoom
10:00 am	4-6 Year Old Sunday School — Zoom
10:00 am	Women's Share & Prayer — Zoom
11:00 am	Morning Worship — Royal Lane Baptist Church YouTube Channel Following Worship – Chat with the Pastor
12:00 pm	Youth Sunday School Class — Zoom
3:00 pm	1st-2nd Grade Sunday School — Zoom
4:00 pm	Formations Class — Zoom
7:30 pm	Deacons Meeting — Zoom
Tuesday	January 12
12:00 pm	Pastor's Book Group — Zoom
Wednesday	January 13
6:30 pm	Midweek Bible Study – with Mike Gregg — Zoom Outline and Introduction to the Acts of the Apostles
7:15 pm	Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal — Virtual
Friday	January 15
12:00 pm	Midday Meditative Prayer — Zoom
Saturday	January 16
2:00 pm	Questers Class — Zoom
3:00 pm	3rd-5th Grade Saturday School — Zoom
8:00 pm	Non-Traditional Class — Zoom
Sunday	January 17 – Second Sunday after Epiphany
9:45 am	Foundation Stones — Zoom
10:00 am	4-6 Year Old Sunday School — Zoom
10:00 am	Women's Share & Prayer — Zoom
11:00 am	Morning Worship — Royal Lane Baptist Church YouTube Channel
12:00 pm	Youth Sunday School Class — Zoom
12:15 pm	Program Council – Calendaring — Zoom
3:00 pm	1st-2nd Grade Sunday School — Zoom
4:00 pm	Formations Class — Zoom
Monday	January 18 – MLK Day
Tuesday	January 19
12:00 pm	Pastor's Book Group — Zoom
Wednesday	January 20 – Mosaic
6:00 pm	Quarterly Church Conference — Zoom
7:15 pm	Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal — Virtual
Friday	January 22
12:00 pm	Midday Meditative Prayer — Zoom
Saturday	January 23
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

How to Connect: See the Weekly Mosaic, Weekend Update or Web Calendar for Links and details for Zoom, Livestream and Virtual events — royallane.org/resources/events. Group hosts and leaders will provide links for events with no published link.

Thank You Notes

Thank each and all for your thoughts and prayers for my recovery. What a blessing I received along with my family. My healing is going well so if you don't mind keep up the good prayers! Bless each of you. Keep safe and thank you for your thoughts.

Royal Lane has a special place in our lives.

*God bless,
Pat Austin*

Thank You from Your Ministers & Staff

Dear members of our Royal Lane family,

It has been a difficult year filled with uncertainty and challenges. Even so, as a people of God, we have many reasons to give thanks and much more to do to bring love, hope, peace, and joy to the world. But we take a moment as your church staff to offer a word of appreciation. We would like to thank you for the Staff Love Gift and the many kind and generous ways you show your appreciation and care to all of us who work at Royal Lane. Know that we continue to pray for you as you join with us in building the Beloved Community in Dallas. We wish the very best for each of you during this season of gratefulness and pray that you have much strength in the upcoming New Year.

Your RLBC Ministers and Staff,

*Mike, Harry, Tim, Laura, Janet, Barbara,
David, Rosa, Nelida, Nelli, Carly & Jose*

The RLBC Staff Celebrates Laura Keller

The RLBC staff celebrates the work anniversary of our colleague, Laura Keller. Laura has served as Minister to Children at Royal Lane Baptist Church since January of 2015. We are glad that Laura is a part of our team.



*Gratefully, Mike Gregg,
Harry Wooten, Janet Schultz, Barbara Merry,
David Weigle, and Rosa Barrientos.*

December Missions Update

For the second year, we have partnered with TRAC (Transitional Resource Action Center) at CitySquare to provide Walmart gift cards for the young adults who are transitioning out of foster care into independent living. This Christmas gift provides the clients of TRAC with the ability to shop for themselves, and the control to be able pick out what they want, which is a luxury many of them don't usually have. Because of a generous donation from church members, we were thrilled to be able to provide 104 gift cards this year, double what we were able to provide last year.

Also, for the third year, we were able to pack 100 stockings filled with socks, hats, gloves, toys, and candy for the children and teenagers who visit the medical professionals at Healing Hands Ministries. We thank all of you who generously dropped off the goodies that helped to brighten this holiday season for these kids whose families are experiencing economic strain.

The Christmas Eve Missions offering of \$610 will be divided equally between Hope Supply Company and North Dallas Shared Ministries.

Thank you to all for your participation in making this a joyful Christmas for these organizations.

Ministry Updates

*We hold the families and loved ones
of these in our prayers:*

Roscoe Johnson Hines

January 14, 1933 – December 15, 2020

Father of Marcia Parrish

Robert Lee Womack IV

August 22, 1949 – December 21, 2020

Brother of Nancy Holland &

Son of Bob Womack

Jeane McRae Bishop

May 31, 1928 – January 2, 2021

Mother of Marsha McRae

Deacons of the Week

January 10

Terry Berrier

Karen Miller

January 17

Joey Belgard

Sandy Washington

Scriptures of the Week

January 10

Genesis 1:1-5

Psalm 29

Act 19:1-7

Mark 1:4-11

January 17

1 Samuel 3:1-10 (11-20)

Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18

1 Corinthians 6:12-20

John 1:43-51

All In-Person Midweek Services & Fellowship Meals Temporarily Suspended

6:30 p.m. Wednesday

January 13

Outline & Introduction to the
Acts of the Apostles
with Mike Gregg

6:00 p.m. Wednesday

January 20

Quarterly Church Conference

November 2020 Financials

	YTD Actual
Revenues	\$678,239
Expenses	\$680,897
Surplus (Deficit)	(\$2,658)

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/

Giving menu includes:

General Fund

Columbarium

The Lowe Scholarship Fund

Other

Optional Memo Line available.



The Box Gallery
is Temporarily Closed

January

Walter Idol	8
Adam Simmons	8
Shawng Lahpai	11
Michael Faulkinbury	12
Carol Tabor	14
Sophie McKinney	16
Kristine Ruddle	16

To change mail or email preferences for *The Mosaic*,
contact Barbara Merry, 214-361-2809, ext. 10 or
bmerry@royallane.org.



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: Open by Appointment

Wednesday Midweek: 6:30 pm - Zoom

Sunday School: Saturday & Sunday - Zoom

Sunday Worship: 11:00 am – Royal Lane YouTube Channel

**Royal Lane Baptist Church
6707 Royal Lane
Dallas, TX 75230-4145**

**Office: [214] 361-2809
Fax: [214] 361-2988
www.royallane.org**

Rosa Barrientos, Housekeeping
Michael Gregg, Pastor
Laura Keller, Minister to Children
Barbara Merry, Administrative Assistant

Janet Schultz, Administrative Assistant
Blake Vickrey, Sound Technician
David Weigle, Organist
Harry Wooten, Minister of Music and Worship