



ROYAL LANE BAPTIST CHURCH

Diverse People United in Christ

March 3, 2021

The Mosaic

Volume 35, Issue 5

Measuring a Year

I've had a particular song in my head recently. It's from the Broadway musical *Rent*. I'm sure it will be in your head after reading the lyrics. "525,600 minutes, 525,000 moments so dear. 525,600 minutes - how do you measure, measure a year? In daylight, in sunsets, in midnights, in cups of coffee. In inches, in miles, in laughter, in strife. In 525,600 minutes - how do you measure a year in the life? How about love? How about love? How about love? Measure in love. Seasons of love."

As we enter one full year of social distancing, wearing masks, and meeting virtually, I am reminded that we've been separated for many minutes – a year's worth. I grieve the fact that I haven't been able to see most of you face to face and give each and every one of you a hug. I miss you and pray for you daily. I pray that you will experience a different year than last, a new season of love.

And in this season of love in 2021, we are reminded that we've measured the year differently until now. Currently we have over 510,000 Covid-19 related deaths in the United States, almost one per minute. This highlights the need for us to continue to be safe, help people in need, fight for justice, and create seasons of love even in the midst of our separation.

Recently I attended the online annual conference of Texas Coalition to Abolish the Death Penalty (TCADP). The Executive Director, Kristin Houle Cuellar, will join Royal Lane for a presentation, as well as a question and answer time, for our March 10 *In Focus* session. I hope you will join us to learn more about the history of the death penalty in Texas and the death penalty's effects on black and brown communities, especially those in poverty.

The Keynote speaker for the TCADP conference was Henderson Hill, the Senior Counsel at the ACLU Capital Punishment Project. He said, "Capital punishment reveals that large swaths of the population are disposable. The criminal justice system is broken." Hill also talked about the neglect of incarcerated people and their being denied the Covid-19 vaccination. Many incarcerated people are dying or will end up dying in prisons across the country. While not on death row, many will experience death due to the surging Covid-19 cases in state and federal facilities.

As people of faith continue to find ways to create a season of love in 2021, I am proud of the current deacon board that voted unanimously to enter into a season of education and action about how our church can become anti-racist. We are called as followers of Jesus, the reformer, to work and strive against systemic racism and white supremacy. It is time for Royal Lane to lead the way as we seek to build, what Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. calls, the Beloved Community.

As we move into a season of love, building and striving for Beloved Community, I will be writing more articles for the Mosaic about how we, as individuals and as a church, can learn to be anti-racist. It is my hope that we can continue our good and difficult work, and measure this upcoming year with love.

Pastor Mike

*The next issues of The Mosaic are scheduled for March 17 & April 7, 2021.
The deadline for submissions will be 5:00 p.m. Monday prior to the date of publication.*

Royal Lane Missions

Seasons of Service...Easter



Please help us make Easter special for children experiencing homelessness. We want to create 60 Easter baskets for the families served by Hope Supply. You can donate items for the Easter baskets, or money that we will use to purchase toys and other goodies to make these baskets special for these special children.

We are collecting chocolate Easter bunnies, small stuffed animals, plastic eggs filled with wrapped candy, small Easter toys, crayons / small coloring books, play doh, slime, stickers, small sports balls, hot wheels cars, card games, fun socks, bubbles, flavored chapstick, etc.

Donation drop off dates and times:
(Royal Lane Baptist Church parking lot)
March 6th 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM
March 13th 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM

We will also come pick up your donations if you can't get to the church one of these dates, just contact the church office to request a pick up.

Thank you all for helping to make Easter special for our beloved community!

IN FOCUS

The Education Committee invites you to join us Wednesday, March 10, at 6:15 pm for our March IN FOCUS. — The Beloved Community
See link on Home page of website or March web calendar.
Zoom link: us02web.zoom.us/j/88170730964

“Understanding the Consequences of the Death Penalty” with Kristin Houle Cuellar as the speaker.
Kristin is the executive director of the Texas Coalition to Abolish the Death Penalty.

Coming Events

Friday	March 5
12:00 pm	Midday Meditative Prayer — Zoom
Saturday	March 6
10:00 am	Donations Drop Off – Easter Missions Project— Parking Lot (10:00 am – noon)
2:00 pm	Questers Class — Zoom
3:00 pm	3rd-5th Grade Saturday School — Zoom
8:00 pm	Non-Traditional Class — Zoom
Sunday	March 7 – Third Sunday in Lent
9:45 am	Foundation Stones — Zoom
9:30 am	Education Committee — 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	Missions Division — Zoom
12:00 pm	Youth Sunday School Class — Zoom
3:00 pm	1st-2nd Grade Sunday School — Zoom
4:00 pm	Formations Class — Zoom
Tuesday	March 9
12:00 pm	Pastor’s Book Group — Zoom
Wednesday	March 10
6:15 pm	IN FOCUS: Understanding the Consequences of the Death Penalty — Zoom
7:30 pm	Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal — Virtual
Friday	March 12
12:00 pm	Midday Meditative Prayer — Zoom
Saturday	March 13
10:00 am	Donations Drop Off – Easter Missions Project— Parking Lot (10:00 am – noon)
2:00 pm	Questers Class — Zoom
3:00 pm	3rd-5th Grade Saturday School — Zoom
8:00 pm	Non-Traditional Class — Zoom
Sunday	March 14 – Fourth Sunday in Lent / Daylight Savings Time Begins
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 — Zoom
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 (7:15 pm – Deacon Chat)
Tuesday	March 16
12:00 pm	Pastor’s Book Group — Zoom
Wednesday	March 17 – Mosaic
6:30 pm	Midweek Bible Study: Acts 2:42-47, The New Community – with Mike Gregg — Zoom
7:30 pm	Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal — Virtual
Friday	March 19
12:00 pm	Midday Meditative Prayer — Zoom
Saturday	March 20
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



RLBC Congregational Affiliate, Fellowship Southwest, Elects Executive Director

Stephen Reeves, the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship's public policy leader, has been elected executive director of Fellowship Southwest.

Reeves will succeed Marv Knox, who founded the ecumenical network affiliated with the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship in 2017. Fellowship Southwest encompasses Arizona, New Mexico, Northern Mexico, Oklahoma, Southern California, and Texas. It organizes churches and individuals around shared compassion for people across the region. It also supports congregations in their missions, ministry and advocacy endeavors.

Reeves, an attorney, has led CBF's advocacy program since 2013. Previously, he was director of public policy for the Texas Baptist Christian Life Commission in Austin and staff attorney for the Washington-based Baptist Joint Committee for Religious Liberty.

Reeves is a graduate of the University of Texas at Austin and the Texas Tech University School of Law. He is proficient in Spanish.

Reeves is a member of the State Bar of Texas. He serves on the boards of the Baptist Joint Committee and Passport Camps, as well as the strategic advisory board of Good Faith media and the Baptist World Alliance Commission on Racial, Gender and Economic Justice. He is co-chair of the Center for Responsible Lending's Faith & Credit Roundtable. He is a former board member of Christians for Environmental Stewardship and Stop Predatory Gambling.

He also served in youth ministry positions for churches in Virginia and Texas.

Reeves' spouse, Deborah, is an ordained CBF endorsed chaplain. They are the parents of three children, Kellyn, Garrett and Landry. They are members of Smoke Rise Baptist Church in Tucker, Georgia.

Read more at: <https://bit.ly/3qSYUr7>



Marv Knox, who is retiring as Coordinator for Fellowship Southwest, joined Fellowship Southwest in 2017 after a four-decade tour in Baptist Journalism, including almost 20 years as editor of the *Baptist Standard* in Texas.

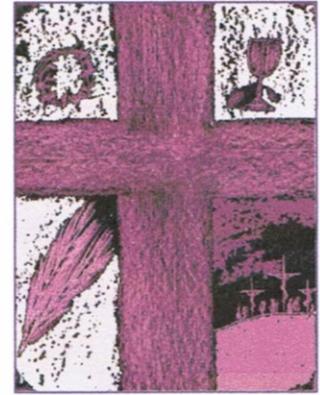
Marv and Joanna live in Coppell, Texas, and they are the parents of two daughters who have two children each. They are active members of Valley Ranch Baptist Church. Marv, a longtime friend of RLBC, likes to read and enjoys running.



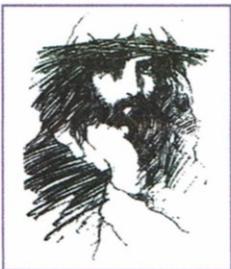
2021 Lent & Holy Week

Theme: I Wait...based on Psalm 130

First Sunday in Lent: "Out of the Depths, I Cry"
Second Sunday in Lent: "My Cry for Mercy"
Third Sunday in Lent: "If You, Lord, Keep a Record"
Fourth Sunday in Lent: "With You, Forgiveness, So We can Serve"
Fifth Sunday in Lent: "In God's Word is My Hope"
Palm/Passion Sunday: "I Wait for the Lord"
Easter Sunday: "For with the Lord is Unfailing Hope"



- Saturday February 13**
10:00 am Palm Frond & Ash Drive Through (10:00 am – Noon)
Drive Through to pick up Ashes, Palm Fronds and Lenten Packet
in preparation for virtual Ash Wednesday Service on February 17, and Lent.
- Sunday February 14 – Transfiguration Sunday / Farewell to Alleluia**
11:00 am Morning Worship — Royal Lane YouTube Channel
- Wednesday February 17 – Ash Wednesday**
6:30 pm Ash Wednesday Service — Zoom
- Sunday March 28 – Palm/Passion Sunday**
11:00 am Morning Worship – Royal Lane YouTube Channel
- Friday April 2 – Good Friday**
7:30 pm Good Friday Service – Royal Lane YouTube Channel
- Saturday April 3**
2:00 pm Drive Through Holy Week & Easter Egg "Hunt" (2:00 – 4:00 pm)
- Sunday April 4 – Easter Sunday**
8:00 am Flowering of the Cross — Front Lawn (*Open All Day with Social Distancing*)
11:00 am Morning Worship — Royal Lane YouTube Channel



2021 Lent Devotionals "Praying with Scripture During Lent" by Rev. Roger Gench

Lent Devotionals are posted online and distributed via email.
Print copies available upon request.
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Easter Flower Dedications

It's time to submit dedications for Easter Flowers. These may be submitted online at royallane.org/easter-flower-dedications/. You may also email the church office at info@royallane.org, or leave a message at 214-361-2809, ext. 11. Printed forms are available in the church office. \$15.00 per dedication. Please submit dedications by Thursday, March 25.

Payment Options:

Check – mail or bring to the church office.

Credit card – contact Janet to provide information or email to instruct her to use information on file

Online bill – through personal bank account

Pay online – click the link provided in the online order which opens in a new window - complete payment then return to form window to SUBMIT Easter Flower Dedication.



Missions Division February Project

The members of the Missions Division provided support for the teachers and staff of Stephen Foster Elementary School in Northwest Dallas this February. We wrote 105 notes of encouragement and gratitude for the dedication and hard work of these amazing educators.



COVID Resources and Updates

Documents and information from the February 24 Conversation with Jamie Luckett & Melissa Walker-Luckett have been added to the RLBC website. We invite you to review these documents and the many resources available on our website as we work together to provide a safe community for all.

Link for Documents: <https://bit.ly/3kBsI9e>



DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME BEGINS Sunday, March 14, 2021



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.

Deacons of the Week

March 7

Nate Green

Donna Wood-Martin

March 14

Terry Berrier

Karen Miller

Scriptures of the Week

March 7

Exodus 20:1-17

Psalm 19

1 Corinthians 1:18-25

John 2:13-22

March 14

Numbers 21:4-9

Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22

Ephesians 2:1-10

John 3:14-21

All In-Person Midweek Services & Fellowship Meals Temporarily Suspended

6:15 p.m. Wednesday

March 10

IN FOCUS

*Understanding the
Consequences of the
Death Penalty*

March 17

Acts 2:42-47

*The New Community
with Mike Gregg*

January 2021 Financials

	YTD Actual
Revenues	\$65,102
Expenses	\$54,815
Surplus (Deficit)	\$10,287

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

Easter Flowers

The Lowe Scholarship Fund

Happy Birthday!

March

Karen Simmons	3
Rex Raiza	4
Cookie Stokes	5
Dan Thompson	5
Ralph Swearingen	7
Karen Miller	8
Brooke Granowski	10
Sarah Macias	10
Percy Parrish	11
Ross Granowski	12
Donnie Gray	12
Scottie Gonzalez	15
Emily Veninga	16



The Box Gallery
is Temporarily Closed

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
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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