Why Does Our Presence at Dallas Pride Matter?

Last week, Ethics Daily published an outstanding article on LGBTQ+ inclusion, written by our very own Rev. Dr. Michael Gregg. Pastor Mike explored something that many of us who identify as queer have personally experienced far too often—many churches that claim to be “welcoming and affirming” often welcome us while refusing to affirm us.

The word affirm means to “state as fact; assert strongly and publicly.” Many congregations are content in allowing LGBTQ+ people to participate in the life of the church but are uncomfortable with making that fact known too publicly. I often refer to these churches as “welcoming but not yet affirming.” They are on the right track, but there is still more work to be done. Participation in a Pride parade or festival is often an important step towards affirmation—both for the congregation and for the local LGBTQ+ community.

Sadly, LGBTQ+ people are routinely excluded from communities of faith and pushed to the margins of society by harmful theologies. These theologies have proven to have deadly consequences, as they are a major contributing factor to high suicide rates, spikes in LGBTQ+ youth homelessness, and violence against the transgender community. That is why it is vitally important for places of worship—especially those with “Baptist” in their name—to be open and public about their support for full inclusion of queer people.

By our presence at the Dallas Pride Festival, we proclaimed proudly and publicly that no matter who you are or whom you love, you are not only welcome here at Royal Lane Baptist Church—you are also affirmed! This message resonated with many folks who stopped to speak with us at our two booths at Pride this year. Dozens of transgender, lesbian, and gay teens and their parents engaged us in conversation. Several parents of those teens asked us, “is this really a safe church for my child?” Many people were shocked to find a Baptist church at Pride and thanked us for our public show of support for their community. And as a direct result of those interactions, several people trusted us enough to join us in worship the very next day.

Becoming a “welcoming and affirming” congregation is not a moment in time marked by a church vote and a change in church polity—it is a perpetual process. Over the past four years, I have been proud to witness Royal Lane Baptist Church’s continued transformation as it moves further towards full inclusion. This year’s participation in the Dallas Pride Festival marks an important milestone in that process of becoming a “welcoming and affirming” congregation.

This Wednesday evening, June 12, you will have an opportunity to hear some of our stories from Pride, to see photos of the festival, and to hear directly from several LGBTQ+ members of our congregation what Royal Lane Baptist Church means to them. I hope you will join us for this important In Focus conversation hosted by the Education Committee following our Wednesday evening supper.

Rev. Tim Schaefer, Minister to Youth

The next issues of The Mosaic are scheduled for June 12 & July 3, 2019. The deadline for submissions will be 5:00 p.m. Tuesday prior to the date of publication.
The members and friends of

Royal Lane Baptist Church

extend our best wishes and hearty congratulations
to our Graduates & Scholarship Recipients.
May God bless you richly.

Chloe Clark-Soles
Chloe, daughter of Jaime and Thad Clark-Soles, graduated from Southern Methodist University on May 18th with a B.A. in History, a B.A. in Religious Studies, and a minor in Economics. During her time at SMU, she participated in Religious Studies club, Alpha Kappa Psi (a business fraternity), and the history ambassadors program. She is now working for an HR consulting firm here in Dallas and is pursuing teacher certification in social studies with hopes to teach high school AP History and Economics.

Jaxson Hill
Jaxson, son of Joe and Jill Hill and brother to Ryah, graduates as valedictorian of Wylie East High School. At Wylie East, Jaxson sang in the varsity mixed choir for three years, the first two years under the direction of Terry Berrier. He was on the robotics team and the solar car team all four years, and was named captain of the solar team his senior year. He was also on the inaugural Academic Decathlon team his junior year and captain of the team his senior year. Both years, his team advanced to state, where Jaxson received several first-place state medals in math, interview, and speech contests. The highlight of Jaxson’s high school years was developing and running a free math tutoring program for students in the community. Over the last three years, it grew to serve 20-30 students weekly with 15 student tutors volunteering their time. This legacy will continue as Ryah and several other students will keep the program running. Jaxson will attend Harvard University in the fall, where he plans to study Mechanical Engineering with hopes of one day working in the space industry. Jaxson has attended Royal Lane since he was two months old and has made lasting friendships and memories. He is grateful to the Royal Lane family for being part of the village that helped raise him to be who he is today.

Trent Juarez
Trent graduated from Texas Christian University on May 11, 2019, with a Bachelor of Music Education (B.M.E.) degree. He will be attending Perkins School of Theology, Southern Methodist University, in the fall of 2019 to pursue a Master of Divinity (M.Div.) degree. Trent is a member of Royal Lane and a leader of the Young Adults (20/30 Ministry) group at Royal Lane.

Erik Scott Tilden
Erik, grandson of Dorothy Tilden, graduated May 11, 2019, from Texas A & M University in Galveston, with a B.S. in Offshore and Coastal Systems Engineering.

Tim Schaefer
Tim graduated in May with a Master of Divinity degree and a degree certificate in Sexual and Gender Justice from Brite Divinity School of Texas Christian University. He has served as Minister to Youth for four years and will continue to serve in that position.
# Coming Events

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Sunday</th>
<th>June 9 – Pentecost Sunday</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8:30 am</td>
<td>Deacons Meeting — Portable 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:30 am</td>
<td>Donuts, Coffee/Juice — Box Gallery</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:45 am</td>
<td>Royal Welcome Class for New Members &amp; Visitors — Library</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:45 am</td>
<td>Christian Education — Christian Education Classrooms &amp; Portable 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:55 am</td>
<td>Morning Worship — Sanctuary</td>
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<tr>
<td>12:15 pm</td>
<td>Child Protection Training for Adults &amp; Youth — Vickrey Hall (childcare &amp; lunch provided)</td>
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<tr>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>June 11</th>
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<tr>
<td>8:30 pm</td>
<td>Tech Committee— Conference Call</td>
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<tr>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>June 12</th>
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<tr>
<td>3:30 pm</td>
<td>Holy Rollers Mission Project — Room 202</td>
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<tr>
<td>5:30 pm</td>
<td>Publicity/Outreach — Room 206</td>
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<tr>
<td>5:30 pm</td>
<td>Midweek Family Dinner — Vickrey Hall</td>
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<tr>
<td>6:00 pm</td>
<td>Youth Activities/Study Hall — Youth Basement</td>
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<tr>
<td>6:15 pm</td>
<td>Wacky Wednesday — Children’s Building</td>
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<tr>
<td>6:15 pm</td>
<td>Midweek Service — IN FOCUS: LGBTQ+ Pride Month— Vickrey Hall</td>
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<tr>
<td>7:15 pm</td>
<td>Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal — Sanctuary</td>
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<tr>
<th>Thursday</th>
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<tr>
<td>6:30 pm</td>
<td>Missions Committee — Library</td>
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<th>Friday</th>
<th>June 14</th>
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<tr>
<td>10:00 am</td>
<td>Second Fridays at NDSM — 2875 Merrell Road, Dallas, TX 75229 (10:00 – 11:30 am)</td>
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<tr>
<th>Saturday</th>
<th>June 15</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9:00 am</td>
<td>MOC Breakfast — Jake’s Burgers and Beer, 2422 N. Henderson, Dallas TX 75206</td>
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<tr>
<th>Sunday</th>
<th>June 16 – Mosaic</th>
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<tr>
<td>9:30 am</td>
<td>Youth Depart for Youth Summer Camp — Schreiner University, 2100 Memorial Blvd, Kerrville, TX 78028</td>
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<td>9:30 am</td>
<td>Donuts, Coffee/Juice — Box Gallery</td>
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<td>9:45 am</td>
<td>Royal Welcome Class for New Members &amp; Visitors — Library</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:45 am</td>
<td>Christian Education — Christian Education Classrooms &amp; Portable 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:55 am</td>
<td>Morning Worship — Sanctuary</td>
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<tr>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>June 19 – Mosaic</th>
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<tr>
<td>3:30 pm</td>
<td>Holy Rollers Mission Project — Room 202</td>
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<tr>
<td>5:30 pm</td>
<td>Midweek Family Dinner — Vickrey Hall</td>
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<td>Salsa Chicken, Rice, Beans, Salad, Tres Leches</td>
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<tr>
<td>6:00 pm</td>
<td>Youth Activities/Study Hall — Youth Basement</td>
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<td>6:15 pm</td>
<td>Wacky Wednesday — Children’s Building</td>
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<tr>
<td>6:15 pm</td>
<td>Midweek Service — Bible Study with Jaime Clark-Soles— Vickrey Hall</td>
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<tr>
<td>7:15 pm</td>
<td>Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal — Sanctuary</td>
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The deadline for the order of service, the Midweek, and the Mosaic is Tuesday, 5:00 p.m. prior to publication.

"Like" RLBC on Facebook or “Follow” RLBC on Twitter

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## 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 in the Church Office

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# VBS is Coming!

**July 8-12**

6:00 pm – 8:30 pm

Preschool thru Grade 5

Register Online!

Prayer Requests:
Janna Beazley, wife of Evie Kincaid
Shirley Bohannan
Steve & Martha Box
Aidan Brown
Marge Bryant
Lynette Bush, mother of Steve Bush
Darlene Carpenter
Iona Desautels, friend of Larry Forth
Dina DiMaria
David & Amanda Doom, and their infant son Eli, nephew & niece of David Doom
Glenn Estapa, friend of Larry Forth & Stephen Lewis
Harry Hunter
George Kesterson
Doug & Susie Leinneweber
Douglas McGhee, uncle of Laurence Schultz
Forrest McKinney

Patricia McNutt
Patsy Meier
Luis Artoro Vargas Ochon & Family, friends of Claudia & Andrea Nuss
Family & Friends of Kathy Peck, mother of Tonyia Dotson and mother-in-law of Cathy Walling, on the death of Kathy Peck
Maryanne Visconti Pfeffer & Family on the death of her brother-in-law, David Pfeffer
Gary Raiza, son, Jerry Raiza, husband, and Glendon, cousin of Maebelle Raiza
Steven Rhodes' niece, Amber
Sandra Tilden, daughter of Dorothy Tilden
Ray & Sharon Vickrey
Jordan Weilage’s friends & family: Teri, Mehran, Keyvan, Shahin, Ladah & Family
Robert Whitaker, brother of Anne Sewell

Please continue to pray for:
Jackie Arnold, sister of Cathy Webb; Kevin Blackburn, step-son-in-law of Harry Hunter; Robbye Foster’s brother, Robert; Minnie Macias, mother of Rodney Macias; William “Oz” Osborne; Robert Putman; Ray Thompson, father of Dan Thompson; Jordan Weilage

IN FOCUS

IN FOCUS

LGBTQ+ Pride In Focus
Wednesday, June 12, 2019, 6:15 pm
This June we celebrate National Pride Month. Join us as some of our congregation’s LGBTQ+ members share their stories of how they were impacted by our church’s move towards welcoming and affirming status. Learn about our participation in this year’s Dallas Pride Festival through pictures and stories.

Don Meier – Humanitarian Award
On the 50th Anniversary of the American Pediatric Surgical Association, the association established a Humanitarian Award. Our congratulations to Don Meier on becoming the first recipient of this award.

Award Description: The APSA Surgical Humanitarian Award recognizes an APSA member whose career has been dedicated to ensuring the provision of surgical care to underserved children without expectation of commensurate reimbursement.

Royal Welcome Class
June 9th – 23rd
9:45 am – Library
New Member Breakfast – June 30
9:45 am – Vickrey Hall

Welcome

Please welcome Raynaldo Trevino, Jr., who joined RLBC on May 26, and Brian & Tammy Nolan, who joined on June 2. Son, Bryce Nolan completes this new Royal Lane family.
Deacons of the Week

June 9
Percy Parrish [214] 457-6613
Kelley Keith [214] 334-5068

June 16
Garey Wisdom [214] 682-1531
Margaret Darden [469] 426-8428

Scriptures of the Week

June 9
Acts 2:1-21 Psalm 104:24-34, 35b
Romans 8:14-17 John 14:8-17, (25-27)

June 16
Proverbs 8:1-4, 22-31 Psalm 8
Romans 5:1-5 John 16:12-15

Midweek Menu

Wednesday, June 12
Beef Sour Cream Noodle Bake, Salad, Bread, Coconut Cake

Wednesday, June 19
Salsa Chicken, Rice, Beans, Salad, Tres Leches

Midweek Meal Prices
Adults - $7 per person
Families - $15 per family
Seniors - $5 per person

Menus are available on the RLBC website calendar. See “Family Supper” for details.

In the Box Gallery

Sherry Houpt

Gallery open by appointment
10-4, weekdays, 10-5 Wednesdays

Happy Birthday!

June
Soccoro Gonzalez ...........................................5
Linda Cross .....................................................6
Raymond Arnswald ........................................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
Scott Bryant ...............................................17
Martha Hatcher .............................................17

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