

Royal Lane Baptist Church

Diverse People United in Christ

March 18, 2020

The Mosaic

Volume 34, Issue 6

Fear Not

When life gets unsettling, viruses run rampant, and economies slide, fear and anxiety can feel overwhelming. We wonder about the future and if life will ever return to normal. But here's what I remind myself: life will indeed change. It's going to be impossible for things to return to the way they were after the serious and debilitating economic and epidemiological events.

But in every big and intimidating circumstance, God speaks to the prophet, the leader, and the follower, and says, "Fear not." When Abraham left his homeland, fear not. When Hagar feared for her son's life, God told her to fear not. When Isaac needed hope, fear not. When Moses had doubts, fear not. When Joshua was scared to go into the promised land, fear not. When Ruth had no people, fear not. When Gabriel spoke to Mary, fear not. When Elizabeth carried John in the womb, fear not. When Peter was told to fish for people, fear not. When the angels showed up at an empty tomb, fear not.

I know it isn't easy. Fearing not might be impossible right now. And that's ok. The reason the followers of God could do their difficult tasks wasn't because they weren't afraid anymore. They were human and humans get afraid. No, God's people didn't fear because God showed up. It was because God spoke words of comfort and abided with them. And that's what we should attempt to do with one another as we move through these uncertain days. We should do what we can to comfort the lonely, heal the brokenhearted, and reach out to the hopeless. We should strive to be a "fear not" people.

And so, I think God is saying to us, "Fear not!" God knows our hearts and wants to comfort us. And in turn, it is our privilege to bring comfort to our neighbors in this city. Maybe we need to be more intentional in picking up the phone and calling a loved one, church member, or friend. Perhaps a quick text will do. Maybe a daily prayer would bring comfort to our souls and hope to those for whom we are praying. Could it be that fear not means donating blood, donating time, or donating money? Maybe comfort is hugging your kids more tightly or embracing your parents more closely. Or perhaps it is remembering that God brought us this far and will not leave us as we journey on.

Because fearing not is what God does and who God is. And I know that we have a long way to go until this current crisis is over. But that's ok because God is whispering in our ears and into our souls, right this very minute, to fear not. "Fear not, little flock, for I am with you and you are mine." Fear not, Royal Lane. Your church loves you and is with you, today and every day.

Pastor Mike

The next issues of The Mosaic are scheduled for April 1 & 15, 2020. The deadline for submissions will be 5:00 p.m. Monday prior to the date of publication.

Royal Lane Missions Fundraiser



POSTPONED: Fall 2020

Donations Still Needed

(please bring all items to the Missions Room in the Education Building or Northwest Portable)

Clothing Scarves & Hats Belts & Ties Purses & Handbags Luggage Linens Towels Baby Items Toys Dishes Pots and Pans Travel Mugs Small Appliances Home Décor Hanging Art/Posters Holiday Décor Gift Wrap Electronics Arts & Crafts Items Office Supplies School Supplies Books Movies/CDs Pet Supplies Sports Equipment Garden Tools Garden Pots

Volunteer

Volunteer Shifts To Be Announced When RLBC Activities Resume



Coming Events

Sunday	March 22 Fourth Sunday in Advent
10:55 am	Morning Worship — Livestream
Sunday	March 29 Fifth Sunday in Advent
10:55 am	Morning Worship — Livestream
2:00 pm	Easter Basket Contents Dropoff Station — West Parking Lot (2:00 – 4:00 pm)
Wednesday	April 1 – Mosaic
	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

Stay Connected through Prayer

One of Royal Lane's church members has committed to pray every morning and evening from 5:00 - 6:00 am and 5:00 - 6:00 pm. She is inviting us to join with her in this important discipline as we seek to remain connected with each other and with God through prayer.

Hope Supply Company "Diaper" Report

Did you know that a baby uses more than 10 disposable diapers a day, and that is a low estimate? Guess I'm too far removed from the process to remember needing that many! Around 15 Royal Laners gathered at Hope Supply on a Saturday morning to help package diapers for families in need. Hope Supply helps families—primarily single moms—who cannot afford to buy the number of diapers necessary for the health of the baby and also required for a child to be left at most daycares so that the parent or parents can go to work. They provide diapers in quantities of 25 that they distribute to families in need through many local charities and service organizations. We were told that 25 is an easily manageable quantity for families who are often on the move.

Several Royal Laners of all ages participated, including my family who represented 3 generations of Meiers. Nolan sat next to his grandparents and worked furiously to replenish the diaper supply and take the packages to the person in charge. Hope Supply incentivized the kids by making it a competition, which made us all work faster. At the end of our 2-hour shift, we packaged over 2700 diapers! We were told that this was a record and that we were welcome back any time!! We hope that you will consider joining us next time. They had something for all ages from toddlers to seniors, and it's a great way to spend time with your church community in service. Nolan reports that it was so



much fun and that he can't wait to go again. So hopefully we will see you next time!

With Love, Amy Ward-Meier

Royal Lane Missions

Seasons of Service... Easter



Easter Baskets for Children & Teens Experiencing Homelessness

If you already have the candy or toys to build Easter baskets for Hope Supply, please bring them to the church on **Sunday, March 29th between 2-4 pm.**

You can drop off the goodies in the parking area next to the playground near Vickrey Hall and the Children's Building. We are not encouraging you to go out and buy supplies for the Easter baskets, we only want you to bring the supplies you already have. We will build the baskets with the things we have and deliver them to Hope Supply.

Thank you all!

Charlotte Sewell & Laura Keller

Dallas Morning News Offer

To Places of Worship,

The coronavirus has arrived in North Texas, and many in your congregation may be wondering what that means to them, their families and the congregation at large.

The Dallas Morning News is extensively covering this situation at a local level. Our journalists are relentlessly covering, discovering, and uncovering the real issues that are part of everyday lives in our communities, and we'd like to help *your* community stay informed through a complimentary subscription to our site, that you may extend as a courtesy and associated benefit of your relationship.

These \$25+ value subscriptions will be good for 3 months to ensure your community members have access to important local news and ideally help enable your community to better-navigate any public health concerns they might have during this critical period.

To offer these subscriptions to your congregation, please simply direct them to

www.Dallasnews.com/stayinformed

Red Cross Blood Drive Vickrey Hall

Royal Lane will be opening its doors to the Red Cross to provide facilities for a blood drive. At the present time we anticipate that the drive will take place on Tuesdays and Thursdays, 9:00 am - 3:00 pm, in Vickrey Hall.

Anyone wishing to donate blood will need to make an appointment with the Red Cross. Details will be posted on the Royal Lane website.



Deacons of the Week

March 22 Dennis Turnbull Cathy Webb

March 29 Alan Greider Harry Hunter



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

In the Box Gallery Sharon Hodges & Kaye Wyne Gallery temporarily closed.

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

Scriptures of the Week

March 22

1 Samuel 16:1-13 Ephesians 5:8-14 Psalm 23 John 9:1-41

March 29

Ezekiel 37:1-14 Romans 8:6-11 Psalm 130 John 11:1-45

All Midweek Services & Fellowship Meals Temporarily Suspended

Happy Birthday!

March

19
21
22
22
23
29
31
31





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

Rosa Barrientos, Housekeeping Michael Gregg, Pastor Laura Keller, Minister to Children Jonah Hammett, Video Technician Barbara Merry, Administrative Assistant Samuel Quesada, Video Technician Royal Lane Baptist Church 6707 Royal Lane Dallas, TX 75230-4145

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

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