



# ROYAL LANE BAPTIST CHURCH

*Diverse People United in Christ*

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June 17, 2020

The Mosaic

Volume 34, Issue 12

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## ***A Vigil for Justice***

For many decades, the late Louis Austin and his wife, Katye, were “pillars of the church” at Royal Lane Baptist Church. Louis was president of Brown and Root, the corporation famous for major construction projects for the U.S. military around the world. He was a staunch, and active, Republican and was very politically conservative. But he was fair, principled and a Christian.

In the early 1980’s, a gay couple began visiting the worship services at Royal Lane. Soon, there was a “stir” throughout the church about the issue of gays “in our church.” As the discussion intensified, groups began to form and the members of the groups became more openly identified.

One Sunday morning, with the gay couple in attendance, Louis Austin sought them out after the service. With Katye at his side, Louis extended his hand, and said, “My name is Louis Austin. This is my wife, Katye. Welcome to Royal Lane. We want you to know that you are welcome here anytime.” There was no longer an issue.

Later in the 1980’s, while I was serving as Chair of the Long Range Planning Committee. Pastor Ray Vickrey met with us to discuss, “What kind of church Royal Lane wants to be.” (If memory serves me correctly, Paulette Harrison was on the committee and was present at that meeting.)

Ray led the discussion on the history of Royal Lane which was characterized by openness, inclusion and acceptance of anyone and everyone seeking a spiritual home or solace. Several times in the discussion, it was noted that, at Royal Lane, “we are diverse people.” Then Ray said, “Diverse people united in Christ.” He looked at us and said, “I like that! Diverse people united in Christ. I think I’ll use it.”

Ray then began including it in the bulletin for the Sunday Morning worship services and, from that time to this day, this phrase has been used to identify and describe Royal Lane Baptist Church.

In the almost forty years that I have been a member of Royal Lane, we have not only lived up to that description, we have expanded its meaning. Now, under the leadership of Mike Gregg, we have a Social Justice Team with a mandate from the church to work toward meaningful and significant change in the areas of racial justice, immigration reform, and healthcare access.

On Friday evening, June 12, the Social Justice Committee welcomed approximately thirty – forty church-members and guests for a vigil in support of Black Lives Matter. Our purpose was to stand in solidarity with those seeking equal justice and fairness by the judicial system and law-enforcement – those for whom such treatment has been long denied. This prayer vigil was a significant opportunity to experience, and participate in, a poignant manifestation of what Royal Lane is all about.

The vigil began with Harry Wooten’s telling of the history of the theme-song of the civil rights movement, “We Shall Overcome,” followed by a stirring presentation of this song by David Weigle, Diana Zavala and Jordan Stubblefield. Following prayer and textual readings by Austen Maddox & Susie Leinneuber, Jennifer Maddox led in a time of remembrance called, “Say Their Names”, as we heard and repeated the names of many of those who have been killed in recent years, including the name of George Floyd.

*(continued, page 2)*

*The next issues of The Mosaic are scheduled for July 1 & 16, 2020.*

*The deadline for submissions will be 5:00 p.m. Monday prior to the date of publication.*

(continued, from page 1)

Joey and Rosa Belgard presented an originally-crafted liturgy and led the group in the lighting of candles followed by the singing of “Lift Every Voice and Sing”. The vigil concluded with a silent walk around the perimeter of the Royal Lane campus, and a benediction by our pastor, Mike Gregg.

As we observe the overwhelming response and reaction by massive numbers of people across the nation in the wake of the death of George Floyd, we have a unique opportunity to make significant strides toward the goals being pursued by the Social Justice Committee and by Royal Lane Baptist Church as a whole.

True to our history and the nature of our character as a church body, we invite and urge you to be an aggressive and tireless participant in our efforts for justice and equality for all.

*Wayne Meachum*

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## Are We There Yet?

“Are we there, yet? Are we there, yet?” Amy and Amber would often start the refrain somewhere in the middle of a long (and sometimes not so long) trip. I would have to reply, “not yet”. I feel a great deal of the anticipation and desire for the end of the journey. I feel the desire to see and speak to each of you, but unfortunately, we must say, “not yet”.

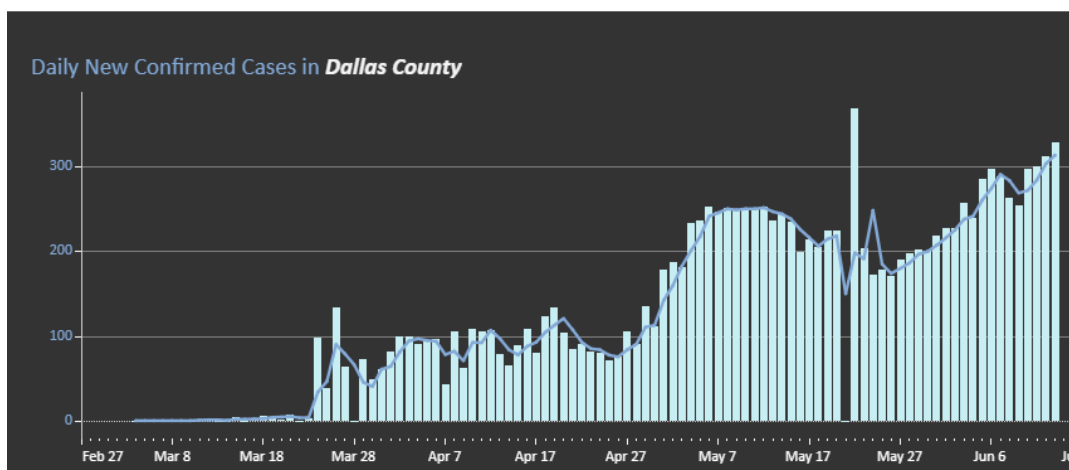
The task force continues to monitor the Daily New Case Rate for Dallas (DNCR) and surrounding counties. The DNCR continues to be a predictable three-week lagging indicator for how the Coronavirus continues to spread. The DNCR again set a record for June 12, 2020 of 328 new cases. June 12 reflects the activities in Dallas County on May 22, the start of the Memorial Day long weekend.

According to Cindy Zolnierek PhD, RN CEO of the Texas Nursing Association:

“Most likely it’s the result of ignoring the social distancing recommendations over Memorial Day weekend and that’s what we’re seeing.”

She said hospital capacity is what we should really keep our eyes on. Mayor Eric Johnson reported Friday (June 12, 2020) that Dallas hospital ICU beds are at 70% capacity. On Thursday, ICU beds were at 68%.

“We really want to be looking at what is actually happening in the hospitals,” said Zolnierek. “An ICU nurse was saying she’s seeing mostly 30 and 40-year-olds that are very sick.”



COVID-19 — Trends by County <https://bit.ly/2Bij9td>

The Reopening Task Force is diligently working on a plan to bring us back together in a way that will limit the risks to RLBC parishioners. We are basing our plans on continued recommendations from the CDC. Timing is everything. We are hoping to see a reduction of the DNCR or as a minimum a stabilization of the daily new cases prior to setting a date to come together in the sanctuary. Until then, dear friends, we look forward to worshipping together on Sunday via Live Stream.

*James Luckett, Melissa Walker-Luckett on behalf of the Reopening Task Force*

*Terry Berrier, Alan Greider, Harry Hunter, Greg King, Bettie Meachum, Sandy Washington, Cathy Webb and Jacquie Wooten*

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# Coming Events

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**Sunday June 21 – Third Sunday after Pentecost / Father's Day**

9:45 am Foundation Stones — Zoom  
10:55 am Morning Worship — Virtual Worship  
3:00 pm 1st-2nd Grade Sunday School — Zoom  
4:00 pm Formations Class — Zoom

**Friday June 25**

12:00 pm Midday Meditative Prayer with Laura Keller — Zoom

**Saturday June 26**

10:00 am Women's Share & Prayer — Zoom  
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 June 28 – Second Sunday after Pentecost**

9:45 am Foundation Stones — Zoom  
10:55 am Morning Worship — Virtual Worship  
Laura Mayo, Guest Preacher  
3:00 pm 1st-2nd Grade Sunday School — Zoom  
4:00 pm Formations Class — Zoom

**Wednesday July 1 – Mosaic**

6:30 pm Reopening Task Force Q & A— Livestream  
With Terry Berrier, Cathy Webb, & Harry Hunter

**Friday July 3**

12:00 pm Midday Meditative Prayer with Laura Keller — Zoom

**Saturday July 4**

10:00 am Women's Share & Prayer — Zoom  
2:00 pm 4-6 Year Old Saturday School — Zoom  
2:00 pm Questers Class — Zoom  
3:00 pm 3rd-5th Grade Saturday School (cancelled for July 4)  
8:00 pm Non-Traditional Class — Zoom

**Wednesday July 22**

6:30 pm - Quarterly Church Conference— Livestream

*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

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## New arrivals:

Congratulations to Steve & Socorro Gonzalez on the birth of their 1st grandchild:

Parents - Steven Gonzalez & Ana Jimenez

Analía Sofia Gonzalez

Born - June 6th, 2020

8 pounds 8 ounces

Congratulations to Karen Simmons on the birth of her first granddaughter:

Parents - Jordan & Lauren Simmons

Olivia Ann Simmons

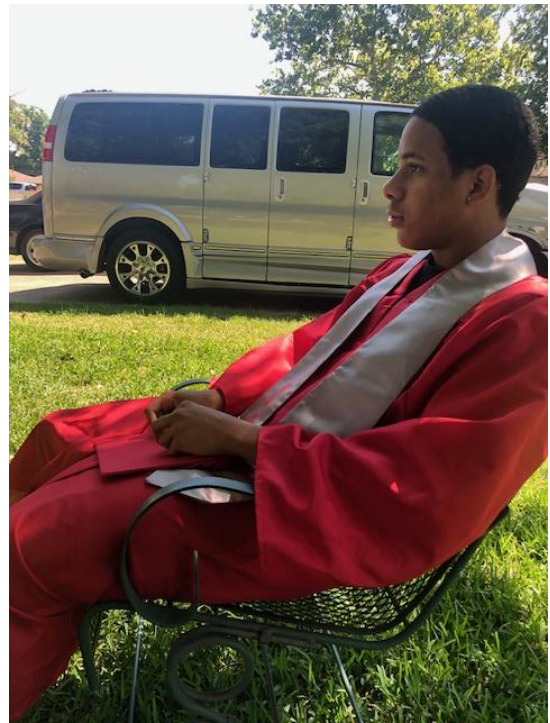
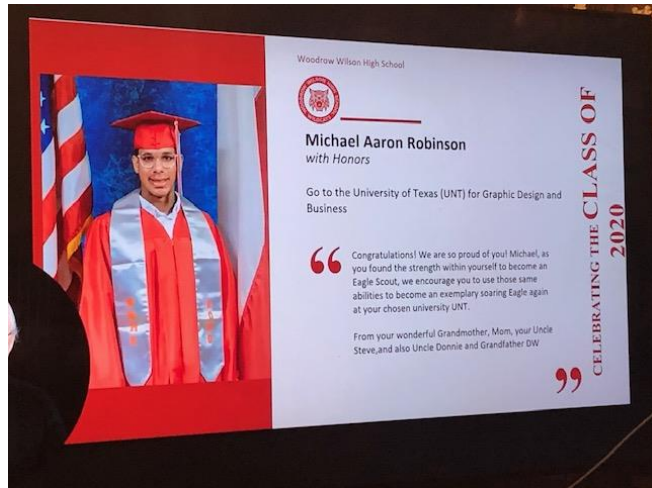
Born - June 11th, 2020

7 pounds 4 ounces





# Drive-By-Celebrations 2020 Graduates Samuel Quesada & Michael Robinson



## Deacons of the Week

**June 21**

Harry Hunter

Blake Miller

**June 28**

Sarah Fuller Phillips

Karen Simmons

## Scriptures of the Week

**June 21**

Genesis 21:8-21 Psalm 86:1-10, 16-17

Romans 6:1b-11 Matthew 10:24-39

**June 28**

Genesis 22:1-14 Psalm 13

Romans 6:12-23 Matthew 10:40-42

## All In-Person Midweek Services & Fellowship Meals Temporarily Suspended

**July 1**

Reopening Task Force Q&A

with Terry Berrier, Cathy Webb &

Harry Hunter

Livestream

**July 8**

No Wednesday Activities

**July 22**

Quarterly Church Conference

Livestream

## April 2020 Financials

Revenues\* \$339,163

Expenses \$248,744

Surplus (Deficit) \$90,419

\*Includes annual pledges paid up front in full.

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## Happy Birthday!

**June**

Scott Bryant.....	17
Martha Hatcher.....	17
Jade Arnsward .....	19
Allen Stewart.....	19
Brittany Jones.....	19
Darrin Fleenor .....	20
Christine Nicolette-Gonzalez.....	24
Anne Sewell .....	24
Steve Sumter .....	25
Avery Michele Stewart .....	27
Leslie Cechan .....	27
Phil Keith.....	27
Jeff Hammett.....	29



The Box Gallery  
is  
temporarily closed.

To change mail or email preferences for *The Mosaic*, contact Barbara Merry, [bmerry@royallane.org](mailto: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: 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**

**6707 Royal Lane**

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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