

ROYAL LANE BAPTIST CHURCH

Diverse People United in Christ

July 1, 2020 The Mosaic Volume 34, Issue 13

Living in Moments of Intensive Care

This has been an unpredictable and difficult season for each and every one of us. As people of faith, we have sought to live out our Christian love by protecting our congregation and our neighbors from the harm of the coronavirus. We have done this by being the church out in the world and online as we've remained at home rather than congregating in a church building. It's been exhausting and frustrating to wrap ourselves in isolating loneliness as we continue to wait out the deadly effects of the pandemic. As of the writing of this article, Dallas County is hitting record numbers of new COVID-19 cases and Intensive Care Units are once again full. It seems we will need to continue to stay home as much as possible while we work to find ways to care for ourselves and one another from afar.

It has also been an unpredictable and difficult season as we have faced a civil rights moment many of us have never before experienced. As structures and systems of racism continue to be uncovered in our city and nation, those of us who are white are beginning to see the many places and the many ways we have not cared for our black neighbors or listened to their stories of systemic racism and generational pain. Many black lives are in the intensive care unit of society and need others to be present with them and provide care, concern, and change.

I'm spending a lot of time in intensive care areas these days, both online and in person. One of those places is in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) of Baylor Hospital. My son, Radford Michael Gregg (Ford), was born over ten weeks early and is struggling to breathe. I guess I never realized how much breath meant for life and how proper breath is a sign of care and concern. Ford is healthy in every way possible but his little, underdeveloped lungs just aren't functioning like they should quite yet.

The NICU is a stressful place, a place where every beeping monitor, every cry, every movement of a nurse is seen and evaluated. One of my friends from Atlanta, a mother of a NICU baby, put it like this: "If there is a God, he watches over these NICU babies. We were there for 32 days. It's a hard, but beautiful place. Every family from the NICU watches the next."

Every family watches the next. We, as NICU families, are invested in each other and care about one another and want every single life in that room to grow and thrive. And providing that care for each other is definitely intense. Thanks to Royal Lane's commitment to the staff, I've been on parental leave for over four weeks. I am grateful for the space and time I've received for me to care for my daughters, wife, and premature son. But it hasn't been easy and it will continue to be a difficult journey for my family. However, in the midst of this unpredictability, intensive care is needed for Ford, my family, and myself. Thank you for providing care for us. We are in an "intensive care" moment.

Whether it be the breath of racial freedom, the muted breath of masked faces seeking to protect one another, the strained breathing on ventilators, or the CPAP machine in the NICU keeping nascent lungs filled, we are experiencing very intense times right now. It is my breath-filled prayer that as we go through these unpredictable and heavy moments together, we might try to care for one another just a little bit more. The world needs some intensive care. I'd love for us to do what the initials for the Intensive Care Unit suggest. I-C-U... I see you. I hope we seek to really see each other and care for one another, now, more than ever.

Pastor Mike



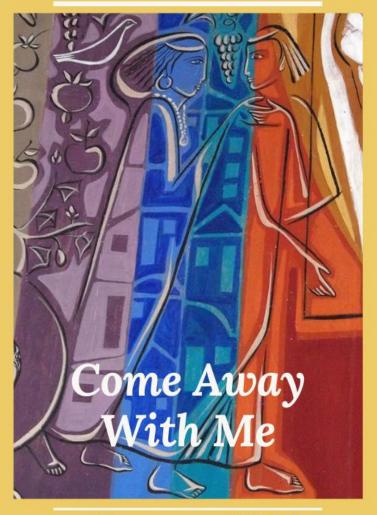
Guest Preacher – Sunday, July 5

Garrett Vickrey

Join <u>royallane.org</u> as we welcome home guest preacher Reverend Garrett Vickrey, currently Senior Pastor, Woodland Baptist Church in San Antonio. Hear his sermon "Come Away with Me" – Song of Solomon 2:8-13 on Sunday, July 5th at 11:00 AM. #RLBClive

Garrett Vickrey became the fourth Senior Pastor at Woodland Baptist Church, San Antonio, Texas, in June 2012. He is a graduate of Baylor University and the Wake Forest University School of Divinity. He has served on the staff of Wilshire Baptist Church in Dallas, Texas and Myers Park Baptist Church in Charlotte, North Carolina. Garrett was born and raised in Dallas, Texas where his father was the pastor of Royal Lane Baptist Church. Garrett and his wife, Cameron, have three daughters, Finley, Zetta, and Sloane.

SONG OF SOLOMON 2:8-13



royallane.org

#RLBClive

Coming Events

Sunday	July 5 – Fifth Sunday after Pentecost
9:45 am	Foundation Stones — Zoom
10:55 am	Morning Worship — Virtual Worship
	Garrett Vickrey, Guest Preacher
3:00 pm	1st-2nd Grade Sunday School — Zoom
4:00 pm	Formations Class — Zoom
Tuesday	July 9
12:00 pm	Pastor's Book Group with Mike Gregg — Zoom
Wednesday	July 8
-	No Wednesday Evening Activities
Friday	July 10
12:00 pm	Midday Meditative Prayer — Zoom
Saturday	July 11
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	July 12 – Sixth Sunday after Pentecost
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
Tuesday	July 14
12:00 pm	Pastor's Book Group with Mike Gregg — Zoom
Wednesday	July 15 – Mosaic
	No Wednesday Evening Activities
Friday	July 17
12:00 pm	Midday Meditative Prayer — Zoom
Saturday	July 18
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

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

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. Where has your mission and heart been as we move through COVID-19 and its impact on our world?

Karen Miller would like YOUR story!



Combined Choir Video

The combined choirs of University Park United Methodist Church, Mark Pope, director and Royal Lane Baptist Church, Harry Wooten, director, joined voices to create a beautiful musical collaboration of "Grace" by Mark Hayes. This was shared as the anthem for the June 28 virtual worship.



Watch Video at:

https://bit.ly/2BQGXVu







Congratulations!

Congratulations to Scott Gonzalez on being appointed the next holder of the Cecil H. and Ida Green Master Teaching Chair at St. Mark's of Dallas. Read the entire article at:

https://bit.ly/2YKjQoD



Deacons of the Week

June 28

Sarah Fuller Phillips Karen Simmons

July 5

Ray Cox

Margaret Darden

All In-Person Midweek Services &

Fellowship Meals Temporarily Suspended

6:30 p.m. Wednesday July 22

Quarterly Church Conference Livestream

In the Box Gallery is



Temporarily Closed

To change mail or email preferences for *The Mosaic*, contact Barbara Merry, bmerry@royallane.org.

Scriptures of the Week

June 28

Genesis 22:1-14 Psalm 13 Romans 6:12-23 Matthew 10:40-42

July 5

Genesis 24:34-38, 42-49, 58-67 Psalm 45:10-17 Romans 7:15-25a Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30

May 2020 Financials

Revenues* \$389,514 Expenses \$321,631 Surplus (Deficit) \$67,883

*Includes annual pledges paid up front in full.

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/

Happy Birthday!

July

July		
Cara Mullinax1		
Garey Wisdom		
Caleb Clark-Soles		
Daniel Solyom Jr4		
Jan Calhoon5		
Kathy Hatcher		
Leslie McKinney		
Harper Wooten		
Claire Keith		
Brett Washburn		
Mike Gregg 10		
Jill Hill		
Behnoush Ghodsi		
Trent Juarez		



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 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 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