

ROYAL LANE BAPTIST CHURCH

Diverse People United in Christ

September 2, 2020

The Mosaic

Volume 34, Issue 17

An Extraordinary, Ordinary Time

My friend, Rev. John Ballenger, the pastor of Woodbrook Baptist Church in Towson, Maryland, follows the liturgical calendar and creatively says that we are in extraordinary, ordinary time. As you know, the Summer and Fall months of the calendar are considered Ordinary Time in the Christian Year. The liturgical color for Ordinary Time is green, which is why you will see our ministers serve communion wearing a green stole.

If this were a "normal" summer, we would be in that long and boring part of the year, the space between Lent and Advent, Easter and Christmas, when not much is going on and when we lean into the soothing rhythm of Summer and the crisp excitement of Fall. But we aren't in ordinary days, are we? This is indeed an extraordinary, ordinary time.

In the midst of staying away from people, worries about sending our children to school, loneliness of being quarantined, and frustrations about working from home, we've had to find a rhythm to this odd way of existing. We've had to adapt to long stretches of isolation. We've had to cancel vacations. We've had to find new jobs. We've had to reduce expenses. We've had to recalibrate the futures we had planned. And, in the midst of these extraordinary events, life has felt rather ordinary and tedious. In this tediousness and depression, we long for extraordinary moments to break in and remind us that we are still loved and remembered.

The journey Amanda and I have been on for most of this year has been both extraordinary and ordinary. Amanda, whether being in the hospital on bedrest or visiting Ford in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU), has been at Baylor University Medical Center every day for nearly 140 days. The rhythm of the NICU feels like extraordinary, ordinary time. The NICU is a rhythm rather similar to the stress and loneliness brought about by COVID as Amanda and I have many long, frustrating, and tiring days... days that are ordinary.

Yet, in the midst of this ordinary time are some bright and hopeful moments. The Baby Shower that the church threw for us was a moment of extraordinary time. We were able to see faces (masked though they were) and receive the gifts of love and meaningful words. The drive-thru back to school blessing organized by Rev. Laura and the Children's Ministry was also one of those extraordinary times, as we saw children and their parents, caught up with loved ones, and vented our fears about the upcoming school year.

As we move forward as a church family in this difficult season, it's ok to feel as if we are in an extraordinary, ordinary time. We are exploring uncharted territory. The terrain ahead of us is unknown and we don't have the luxury of relaxing into the ordinary rhythm of life. So, where might we find extraordinary moments in the tedious and tiring time of COVID? Do we appreciate signs of hope on our morning walks? Do we see love in the masked faces of our friends and family? Do we find peace in the ritual of online worship and Zoom meetings? I hope we do. And I also hope you know, even in the midst of your ordinary life, that you are prayed for by an extraordinary ministerial staff, held close by an extraordinary church family, and loved by an extraordinary God. This is a new season for the church and for you. But, we are in this together. We are in an extraordinary, ordinary time.

Pastor Mike

The next issues of The Mosaic are scheduled for September 16 & October 4, 2020. The deadline for submissions will be 5:00 p.m. Monday prior to the date of publication.

Work Anniversary Celebrations

The RLBC staff celebrates the August and September work anniversaries of our colleagues.

Nelida Sanchez has served in the nursery of Royal Lane Baptist Church since August of 2016 and Nelli Sanchez has served in the nursery since August of 2017.

Mike Gregg has been pastor at Royal Lane Baptist Church since September 8, 2016 and David Weigle has been organist since September 10, 2017.

We are glad that Nelida, Nelli, Mike and David are a part of our team.

Gratefully, Harry Wooten, Tim Schaefer, Laura Keller, Janet Schultz, Barbara Merry, and Rosa Barrientos.

DEVOTED TO JUSTICE

October 10, 2020, 12:00 pm, Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join the Alliance of Baptists for a 90-minute online gathering focused on justice and liberation Registration is required. Keynote speaker to be announced.

You will note that we have included new questions in the registration process. We are seeking to capture this information so we can have a better understanding of who we are. Your responses to these questions will allow us to better live out our commitment to racial justice by ensuring inclusion of BIPOC in all aspects of Alliance leadership. This info will not be shared with others.

https://bit.ly/31Lzf9H





Coming Events

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Friday	September 4
12:00 pm	Midday Meditative Prayer — Zoom
Saturday	September 5
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	September 6 – Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost
9:45 am	Foundation Stones — Zoom
10:00 am	Women's Share & Prayer — Zoom
10:55 am	Morning Worship — Livestream
3:00 pm	1st-2nd Grade Sunday School — Zoom
4:00 pm	Formations Class — Zoom
Monday	September 7 – Labor Day
Tuesday	September 8
12:00 pm	Pastor's Book Group — Zoom
Wednesday	September 9
6:30 pm	"White Fragility" — Virtual Conversation (Registration Required)
Friday	September 11
12:00 pm	Midday Meditative Prayer — Zoom
Saturday	September 12
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	September 13 – Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost
9:45 am	Foundation Stones — Zoom
10:00 am	Women's Share & Prayer — Zoom
10:55 am	Morning Worship — Livestream
3:00 pm	1st-2nd Grade Sunday School — Zoom
4:00 pm	Formations Class — Zoom
7:30 pm	Deacons Meeting — Zoom
Tuesday	September 15
12:00 pm	Pastor's Book Group — Zoom
Wednesday	September 16 – Mosaic
7:30 pm	Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal — Virtual Rehearsal
Friday	September 18
12:00 pm	Midday Meditative Prayer — Zoom
Saturday	September 19
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

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



Congratulations to Sandy Washington and the Dallas Chapter of Links for achieving a score of 80 or higher combined points on their 2018-2020 program report – Dallas Chapter STEAM Academy. The Dallas Chapter of Links has been designated as a 2020 BEST PRACTICES CHAPTER. The

program of this chapter is recognized as a model of transformational programming in the Dallas community.

Free Facebook Event – September 20 at facebook.com/neverthelessshepreached/



Register for September 21-22 online events: https://bit.ly/2Gjllwl



COVID 19 – COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS



Keeping Texas Tested & Open

Royal Lane Baptist Church FREE COVID-19 Testing for All

Royal Lane Baptist Church 6707 Royal Ln, Dallas, TX 75230 Starting 8/20 | Monday through Thursday | 9am - 5pm



Register at GoGetTested.com
Or Call 1-877-TEST-GO-1

Blood Drive at RLBC

The American Red Cross will be holding a blood drive in Vickrey Hall at RLBC on September 24 and October 27. We hope you will schedule a donation through the American Red Cross at Royal Lane or the location of your choice. Find a blood drive at redcrossblood.org/give.html/find-drive.

Deacons of the Week

September 6

Ray Cox

Margaret Darden

September 13

Melanie Ferguson

Garey Wisdom

All In-Person Midweek Services &

Fellowship Meals
Temporarily Suspended

6:30 p.m. *Wednesday* August 5 - September 9

"White Fragility" Virtual Conversation Register Today!

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

September 6

Exodus 12:1-14 Psalm 149
Romans 13:8-14 Matthew 8:15-20

September 13

Exodus 14:19-31 Psalm 15:1b-11, 20-21 Romans 14:1-12 Matthew 18:21-35

July 2020 Financials

Revenues* \$481,535 Expenses \$439,295 Surplus (Deficit) \$42,240

*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/

Giving menu includes:

General Fund Columbarium The Lowe Scholarship Fund Other

Optional Memo Line available.

Happy Birthday!

September

Jennifer Hammett
Dot Johnson
Corrie Stokes
Quinn Keller4
Harry Wooten5
John Helms7
Deana Jeter
Rosa Barrientos
Alan Greider8
Jeff Hill8
Garland Hamic
Mike Rainbolt-Bailey
Martha Box



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

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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