

# Royal Lane Baptist Church

Diverse People United in Christ

December 15, 2021

The Mosaic

Volume 35, Issue 24

### The Coming of the Crèches

Cookie Stokes

A description of the Crèches on display in the windows of the Sanctuary

West Window 1. This is a 1950's vintage cardboard nativity from Theresa Helms in 2013. Theresa uses the word *vintage* instead of *old*.

West Window 2. The Makonde set of black ebony from Tanzania is from Surtida Bhandari in 1995. Surtida's family was from India but went to Tanzania as refugees. No one since her grandmother had been back to India. Surtida was a music major at Arkansas Tech, one of the college international students that Cookie Stokes hosted for Christmas in 1994. Surtida was a professed agnostic but got the nativity set on her trip home to Tanzania the next year, because she knew that it meant something special at Royal Lane. Cookie has a large doll made by her mother named Surtida because it looks like her.

The tiny stick figures, handmade from straw and corn husks, are from Kenya on a trip with Anna Lou Brown in May 2013.

West Window 3. The wooden one-piece crèche was painted in 2017 by Royal Lane children: Sadie Watson, Brodie Keller, Penelope Meier, Shirley Bracewell, and Ashley Fleenor.

West Window 4. This is a combination of sets. The pieces of cloth from Guatemala have a unique arch. The small white and purple pottery set from Mexico is from Corrie Stokes when she was a student at Trinity University in San Antonio. The colorful clay figures are from Ecuador and include the traditional rooster.

West Window 5. This Native American crèche is a favorite for many people.

East Window 1. This is a combination of 3 Parastone figures and a crèche of Alaskan Inuits from Margaret and Doug Ross, after their cruise to Alaska in 2003.

East Window 2. This set of large, red clay pottery pieces from Mexico, was a gift from Joey and Rosa Belgard in 1997, the first year that Royal Lane used the diverse crèches in the sanctuary windows for Advent.

East Window 3. This is a whimsical African American crèche that Cookie Stokes bought at Pike's Place Market in Seattle, Washington, in 1993.

East Window 4. This marble sculpture came from Vietnam in 2003 or 2004 when Cookie Stokes and Nancy Ferrell went to support the work of her brother Roger who had a passion for helping the Vietnamese people. The carving depicts the Holy Family at a later time in the story of Jesus birth. Jesus is a toddler in his mother's lap as she rides a donkey that Joseph leads.

East Window 5. This is a hand-made crèche from Thailand of beautiful, colorful cloth and paper pieces.

The next issues of The Mosaic are scheduled for January 5 L 19, 2022. The deadline for submissions will be 5:00 p.m. Monday prior to the date of publication.

### **Stewardship Thoughts and Reminders**

As we close out 2021, a few things have come to mind concerning some Whys and Ways we can *pledge and give* to Royal Lane Baptist Church. Just so you are informed, consider...

Some Whys:

- The Personnel Division reports that the Staff at Royal Lane have not seen wage raises in several years
- The Properties Division is reporting that maintenance and insurance is increasing by over \$64,000 for 2022
- The IT Division reports the need for new Audio-Visual equipment for both in-person and livestreaming capabilities
- We have a need to maintain our excellent Christian Education, Worship, Outreach, Missions, and Fellowship programming
- Our current pledge amount for 2022 is \$575,650. Our goal is for \$ 664,650, an increase of \$89,000.
- We now have 76 pledges for 2022. We have a goal of an additional 24 pledges, increasing to 100 family units pledging.
- As Christians, we have a need to give cheerfully, even as we know the cost of operations

Some Ways:

- Pledge a carefully considered amount for 2022
- Consider an increase in your existing pledge for 2022
- Incorporate a charitable gift to Royal Lane in your estate plan
- Give stocks to Royal Lane
- Use Amazon Smile, which can send a small portion to Royal Lane each time you purchase a product
- Use a charity-focused credit card, or redeem "cash back rewards" to donate to Royal Lane

At this time of year, it is hard to find the time to contemplate our giving, and then to realize it. But it is also a time of reassessing and renewing! We are looking to increase our pledges by \$144,000, and we have faith that our current situations will reveal God's plan for us in how we will work and mission together. This is a time for opportunity, hope, and possibility!

Terry Berrier, Deacon Chair Patricia McNutt, Treasurer



### WOC New Year Tea

2022 will start off with a favorite celebration – the New Year Tea sponsored by Women of the Church.

Save the date, January 8, 2:00 - 4:00 pm in Vickrey Hall. Get out your hats and other "tea clothes" and join our children and youth for an afternoon of tea and fun.

# **Coming Events**

Saturday	December 18
2:00 pm	Questers Class — Zoom
8:00 pm	Non-Traditional Class — Zoom
Sunday	December 19 – Fourth Sunday of Advent
9:15 am	Children's SS Classes — Zoom
9:45 am	Formations Class — Room 202
9:45 am	Foundation Stones Class — Room 206
10:00 am	Youth SS Class — Youth Portable (Portable 1)
10:30 am	Children ages 3 year through 5th grade – Vickrey Hall
10:55 am	Morning Worship — Sanctuary or Royal Lane YouTube Channel
Tuesday	December 21
	Youth Tuesday Fun — Galleria Ice Skating & Scavenger Hunt
Wednesday	December 22
	No Wednesday Activities
Friday	December 24 – Christmas Eve
	Church Office Closed
4:00 pm	Family Christmas — Sanctuary (childcare provided)
6:30 pm	Christmas Eve Service, Holy Communion Offered — Sanctuary (childcare provided)
Saturday	December 25 – Christmas Day
_	No Christian Education Classes
Sunday	December 26 – First Sunday after Christmas
	No Christian Education Classes
10:55 am	Morning Worship – Blake Miller, Guest Preacher — Sanctuary or Royal Lane YouTube Channel
Wednesday	December 29
•	No Wednesday Activities
Saturday	January 1 – New Year's Day
	No Christian Education Classes
Sunday	January 2 – Epiphany Sunday
9:15 am	Children's SS Classes — Zoom
9:45 am	Formations Class — Room 202
9:45 am	Foundation Stones Class — Room 206
10:00 am	Youth SS Class — Youth Portable (Portable 1)
10:30 am	Children ages 3 year through 5th grade – Vickrey Hall
10:55 am	Morning Worship — Sanctuary or Royal Lane YouTube Channel
Wednesday	January 5 – Mosaic
10:00 am	Holy Rollers — Room 212 (10:00 am – 12:00 pm)
6:15 pm	Midweek Study with Steve Graham — Zoom
7:00 pm	Youth Gathering — Youth Portable (Portable 1)
7:15 pm	Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal — Sanctuary
	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

#### How to Connect

See the Weekly Mosaic, Weekend Update or Web Calendar for Links and details for In-Person, Livestream, Virtual or Zoom events — royallane.org/resources/events Group hosts and leaders will provide links for events with no published link.

### **Christmas Eve Missions Offering**

This Christmas Eve, we are thrilled to announce that our special Missions offering will go to The Knox Fund for Immigrant Relief. Named for Fellowship Southwest's founder Marv Knox, on the occasion of his retirement at the end of 2021, The Knox Fund for Immigrant Relief provides resources to pastors on both sides of the United States-Mexico border to serve immigrants and refugees. Fellowship Southwest regularly receives requests for financial assistance or ministry supplies from our partner pastors



all along the border. Because of donations from churches like ours, they have been able to respond to these requests without interruption. Giving to this fund helps us be the presence of Christ for people Jesus called "the least of these." Join us in making a donation to this important cause.

Donate Online by selecting the fund Christmas Eve Missions Offering.

### **Stocking Stuffing for Helping Hands Ministries**









A Picture is Worth a Thousand Words!!!



Katie & George Walter, my parents by Connie Bechtol

Dan Bohannan Dan's parents My parents Louise Finke *by Shirley Bohannan* 

Rose Griffin Dorothy Griffin by Dottie Brashear

Paula and Ed Bright by Sheila Bright

Donnie Cechan by Leslie Cechan

Doud Cox, who taught me to love God and to love music by Ray Cox

Patricia Crutcher by Rick Crutcher

Lynn Darden Margaret & Sam Furr *by Margaret Darden* 

Kathy Peck, my mom by Tonyia Dotson

J. C. Edwards, my dad Judge Fred Edwards, my brother by Elwanda Edwards

Jo Ferguson Doris & Forrest Gambill by Sheryl Gambill

I.E. (Gene) Garrett Nell & Ed Thomas Emmie Lou & Otis Kerley. *by Betty Garrett* 

James & Earlene Lackey Jean Ann Graham Nancy Moreland Chris Graham by Steve & Jennifer Graham



### Poinsettia Dedications Give in memory of

Gerry Gunnin by Barbara Gunnin Anna Marie & Bruce Lowe by Paulette & Harold Harrison Steve Dolloff

by Harry Hunter

Calvin James Alvie & Pauline Cork Wendell & Opal James *by Shirley James* 

Dana Hanson, friend and co-worker by Brittany Jones

Mr. & Dr. Jesse & Jeannette Phillips by Michael Jones

Ann Charlesworth Marie Tomlin Tom Tomlin *by Christin Lavery* 

Esther Luedke, mother by Bruce Luedke

Ruth & Roy Moore and sons Lorraine and Zackary Meachum, Sr. Gene Sprout Pauline Salazar Richard Seib by Bettie Meachum

Zackey & Lorraine Meachum Mary Katherine & John Roberts Allie Ruth & Roy Moore and Charles Harold, Bubba, Billie and Scott *by Wayne Meachum* 

Jo Ferguson by Don & Patsy Meier

Lawrence Ambler, father Jewel Ambler, mother Grant Ambler, brother *by Marilyn Munro* 

Jonathan Barber Christian Ndenga *by Rita Nsumbu* 

George A. Quesada, Sr. Maxine S. Quesada Charlie Jaynes Jo Ferguson by The Quesadas Richard George and Ed & Fumiko Jones Clifford & Emelda Schultz by Laurence & Janet Schultz Terry L. Simmons by Karen Simmons Raymond L. Vickrey by Sharon Vickrey Royal King Luckett Mary Walker Mark Walker by Jamie & Melissa Walker-Luckett Anna Walling, mom by Cathy Walling Mark S. Brandon by Marcy Waters Cason Dennis H. Waters by Marcy Waters Cason, Lisa Waters, Erin Waters, Rebecca Sparling Jim Sewell Ruth & Bill Logan by Charlotte Sewell & Brian Watson **Orville & Elnora Wisdom** Chuck & Linda Spear William Logan Irby by Garey Wisdom **Douglas Martin** Donna & Billy Wood Polly & Larue Martin Ozzie & Jack Anderson by Donna Wood-Martin & Scott Martin

Duane D. Young, Sr. by DeeDee Young Laura Bechtol & Lew Bechtol, my children by Connie Bechtol

Shirley Bohannan by Holy Bohannan

Holly, Clay, Faith, Shelby, Hope & Blake by Shirley Bohannan

Lily Brashear by Dottie Brashear

The three Bright Girls and their families by Sheila Bright

Bobbie Joyce Edwards, my mother by Elwanda Edwards

All friends here at Royal Lane Baptist by Sheryl Gambill

The Hammett Family: Jeff, Jennifer, Jonah, & Jacob The Keiths: Phil, Kelley, Claire, & Owen *by Paulette & Harold Harrison* 

Percy Parrish Marcia Parrish Jasmine Parrish Jayda Parrish by Martha & Kathy Hatcher

Steve & Jennifer Graham by Interim Pastor Search Committee

Summer A. Jones by Michael Jones

# Poinsettia Dedications Give in honor of

Emmy & Grandaddy Grandmom & Grandad by Claire & Owen Keith

Kurt, Amy, Allie, Kendall, Ben Meachum Aubrey, Adam, Mary Katherine, Mac Connatser Ruth Seib Charlotte Sewell Royal Lane Ministers and Staff *by Bettie Meachum* 

Kurt & Amy Meachum and Allie, Kendall and Ben Aubrey & Adam Connatser and M.K. and Mac Suzanne Duvall by Wayne Meachum

Charlotte Sewell Laura Keller Harry Wooten Steve Graham Terry Berrier Susie Jaynes *by The Quesadas* 

The Sewell/Watson Family The Whitaker/McFadyen Family by Anne Sewell

Amy, Aaron, Aidan, AJ, & Avery Stewart Amber, Kevin, Luke, & Rutledge Seymour Zadie Luckett James Walker *by Jamie & Melissa Walker-Luckett*  RLBC Staff Anne Sewell Bob & Sue Watson Grace, Emma & Sadie Watson Donna Sewell by Charlotte Sewell & Brian Watson

Brad Carter Linda Hueston Questers Sunday School Class by Garey Wisdom

Brittany & Nathan Jones Barrett, Jacquie, Harper, Turner & Harrison Wooten Blair Wooten Harry Sr. & Nancy Wooten Polly Smith David Weigle & Mace Welch Janet Schultz Barbara Merry *by Harry & Debi Wooten* 

Harry & Debi Wooten Brittany & Nathan Jones Barrett Wooten Jacquie Wooten Harper Wooten Turner Wooten Harrison Wooten Blair Wooten *by Harry Sr. & Nancy Wooten* 

Duane D. Young Jr. & Jana Young Steven M. & Debra McClure Young by DeeDee Young



# Thank You Note

Thank you to all who helped prepare the Sanctuary and Royal Lane for the Advent and Christmas Season.



#### **Deacons of the Week**

**December 19** Tex Quesada Christin Lavery

December 26 Mike Keith Garey Wisdom

January 2 Jamie Luckett Donna Wood-Martin

# All In-Person Midweek Services &

Fellowship Meals Temporarily Suspended

No Wednesday Evening activities December 22 & 29

# 6:15 p.m. Wednesday

**January 5** *The Solace of Fierce Landscapes* by Belden Lane with Steve Graham

# Happy Birthday!

#### January

Anthony Hatcher	2
Matt Orwig	2
Dottie Brashear	4
Emma Watson	4

# **Scriptures of the Week**

#### **December 19**

Micah 5:2-5aLuke 1:46b-55Hebrews 10:5-10Luke 1:39-45

**December 26** 

1 Samuel 2:18-20, 26 Colossians 3:12-17 Psalm 148 Luke 2:41-52

#### January 2

 Isaiah 60:1-6
 Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14

 Ephesians 3:1-12
 Matthew 2:1-12

### October 2021 Financials

YTD ActualRevenues\*\$585,450Expenses\$558,429Surplus (Deficit)\$27,021\*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 The Lowe Scholarship Fund Columbarium Christmas Eve Missions Offering

# Happy Birthday!

#### December

Janet Schultz	15
Kate Thompson	16
Chris Cechan	17
Clint Cechan	17
Nolan Meier	20
Harold Harrison	21
Michael Carter	24
James Robinson	27
Lindsey Washington	27
J.J. Berrier	



# 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: 6:30 pm - Zoom Sunday School: Saturday & Sunday - Zoom Sunday Worship: 10:55 am

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