



# ROYAL LANE BAPTIST CHURCH

*Diverse People United in Christ*

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June 8, 2023

The Mosaic

Volume 37, Issue 11

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## *Theological Curiosity*

My son is very interested in the Christian faith. He loves to read his Bible, and he's recently become entranced with a book series by Marc Olson, his favorite of the series being *The World Jesus Knew*. He loves learning about 1st century life, Jewish traditions, and random facts about the world of Jesus.

There's a page in Olson's book with pictures of different gods and goddesses that were worshiped by the 1st century Romans. His sister, who can't yet read, pointed to the bearded white man with a six pack and a lightning bolt in his hand and said, "That looks like God!" Before I could interject, my son said, "That actually is the *exact* opposite of what God looks like."

Amazed, I said to him, "What do you think God looks like?" He said, "Well, I think he looks really weak, but he's actually very strong. He also would never use his power for evil, so the lightning bolt tells me that's not God. And since God isn't male or female, he probably looks like half a woman and half a man. But, either way, he *definitely* looks humble. Not like this guy."

I made eye contact with my husband across the room, and we smiled at each other. While some of his musings about God can be a little confusing, we're committed as parents to never stifle his theological curiosity but to encourage it. Even when he says things I want to correct, I'm careful to respond in ways that encourage his own continued reflections about God.

It was such a moment of pride for me as a mother and a pastor. I desperately want my kids to be theologically curious. I grew up in a tradition that made me feel pressure to have assurance about who God is and to cut out any doubts. Ironically it stifled my curiosity about God. There wasn't room for much musing, only certainty.

Richard Rohr once said that to say God is a mystery is not to say that God is unknowable, but that God is infinitely knowable. That's what I want for my children as their mother, and it's what I want for you as your pastor. My hope is to lead us in a way that makes us fall more and more in love with the mystery of God. It's not that we can't know anything about God, it's that there's always *more* to know about God.

My prayer for you today is that you sense a renewed curiosity about God, and you stay hungry for the mystery.

With love for all of you,

*Pastor Victoria*

*The next issues of The Mosaic are scheduled for June 22 & July 13, 2023.  
The deadline for submissions will be 5:00 p.m. Monday prior to the date of publication.*

## Holy Land Trip Information Session

June 25, 12:00 PM, Library

October 9-18, Faith Commons is hosting a unique experience in the Holy Land rooted in curiosity and discovery. Arguably there is nowhere on earth people argue about more than the Holy Land. *Why is it important? Who does it belong to? Who gets to decide who lives there? And what makes the land holy?*

The tour is centered on these questions and will be led by Rev. Dr. George Mason and Rabbi Nancy Kasten. The hope is that a diverse group of travelers, attuned to the diversity and complexity of the people connected to the land, will gain insights and wisdom to sustain them and to share with their communities when they return.

Pastor Victoria would love to lead a strong cohort from Royal Lane on this trip. If you're interested, please join us for an information session with Rev. Dr. George Mason on June 25 immediately following the Sunday service in the church library.



## RLBC Independence Day Fellowship

Mark your calendars!

Wednesday, June 28, 5:30 – 7:00 pm

Celebrate Independence Day with your Royal Lane Family.  
Food, waterslide, and more.



## Welcoming New Minister to Children, Youth and Families

Church Wide Welcome, Sunday, July 9, 9:45 am

On Sunday, May 28th at a called church conference after worship, the congregation voted on the recommendation of the personnel committee to call Beth Johnson as our new Minister to Children, Youth and Families. Beth will begin her role with us on Wednesday, July 5. Join us for a church-wide welcome on Sunday, July 9 at 9:45am in Vickrey Hall. Refreshments will be available, and the event is come and go. Please consider coming before your Sunday school class or before worship and join us in giving God thanks for Royal Lane's bright future!

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# Coming Events

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<b>Sunday</b>	<b>June 11 – Second Sunday after Pentecost</b>
8:30 am	Deacon's Meeting — Library
9:45 am	Adult Christian Education — Christian Education Building
9:45 am	Children's Christian Education — Christian Education Building
10:00 am	Youth SS Class — Youth Portable (Portable 1)
10:10 am	Non-Traditional Class — Room 212
10:55 am	Morning Worship — Sanctuary & Royal Lane YouTube Channel
	Godly Play – Following Time for Young Disciples — Godly Play Room
12:15 pm	Reception honoring Janet Schultz on her Retirement — Vickrey Hall
1:15 pm	Racial Justice Committee — Christian Education Building, Room 212
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>June 14</b>
3:30 pm	Holy Rollers — Christian Education Building – Room 201 (3:30 – 5:30 pm)
5:30 pm	Midweek Dinner — Vickrey Hall
	Menu: Chicken Tenders, Mashed Potatoes, Green Beans, Salad. Dessert: Chocolate Cake
6:00 pm	Wacky Wednesdays — Decorating Containers for Chores for Chickens Money, hosted by Charlotte Sewell
6:15 pm	IN FOCUS — Vickrey Hall
	Conversations that Matter, Beloved Community: Coming to Our Senses, Touching Hearts with Missions
7:00 pm	Youth Gathering — Youth Portable (Portable 1)
7:15 pm	Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal — Sanctuary
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>June 17</b>
	Third Saturday Youth Activity
2:00 pm	Questers Class — Zoom
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>June 18 – Third Sunday after Pentecost</b>
9:45 am	Adult Christian Education — Christian Education Building
9:45 am	Children's Christian Education — Christian Education Building
10:00 am	Youth SS Class — Youth Portable (Portable 1)
10:10 am	Non-Traditional Class — Room 212
10:55 am	Morning Worship — Sanctuary & Royal Lane YouTube Channel
	Godly Play – Following Time for Young Disciples — Godly Play Room
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>June 20</b>
9:00 am	Red Cross Blood Drive — Vickrey Hall
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>June 21</b>
3:30 pm	Holy Rollers — Christian Education Building – Room 201 (3:30 – 5:30 pm)
5:30 pm	Midweek Dinner — Vickrey Hall
	Menu: Spaghetti with Beef, Garlic Bread, Salad. Dessert: Cookies
6:00 pm	Wacky Wednesdays – Kintsugi, Japanese Art of Fixing Pottery with Gold, hosted by Phil & Kelley Keith
6:00 pm	Midweek Gathering & Study — Vickrey Hall & Zoom
7:00 pm	Youth Gathering — Youth Portable (Portable 1)
7:15 pm	Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal — Sanctuary
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>June 22</b>
12:30 pm	Foster Care Group — Vickrey Hall
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>June 24</b>
2:00 pm	Questers Class — Zoom
4:00 pm	Artist Reception – Sherry Houpt — Box Gallery

*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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## 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](http://royallane.org/resources/events)  
Group hosts and leaders will provide links for events with no published link.



## **Blood Drive** **Royal Lane Baptist Church**

Vickrey Hall  
6707 Royal Lane  
Dallas, TX 75230

**Tuesday, June 20, 2023**  
**9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.**

Please visit [RedCrossBlood.org](https://RedCrossBlood.org)  
and enter: royallanebaptist to schedule  
an appointment or scan the QR code below.

**Do good this summer! Come give in June for a \$10 gift  
card by email to a merchant of your choice.**



Scan to schedule  
an appointment.

**Be part of something big. Make an appointment.**

1-800-RED CROSS | [RedCrossBlood.org](https://RedCrossBlood.org) | Download the Blood Donor App

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## Deacons of the Week

**June 11**

David Doom  
Sandy Washington

**June 18**

Patsy Meier  
Barrett Wooten

## Midweek Program 6:00 p.m. Wednesday in Vickrey Hall

**June 14**

**IN FOCUS**

Conversations that Matter,  
Beloved Community:  
Coming to Our Senses,  
Touching Hearts with Missions

**June 21**

**Hymn Sing!**

Join us for a Fellowship Meal  
at 5:30 pm.

Announcements, Birthday Celebrations  
and Prayer Concerns at 6:00 pm.



In the Box Gallery  
Through August 25, 2023

**Sherry Houpt**

Gallery open by appointment  
10-4, weekdays, 10-5 Wednesdays

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

**June 11**

Genesis 12:1-9  
Romans 4:13-25

Psalm 33:1-12  
Matthew 9:9-13, 18-26

**June 18**

Genesis 18:1-15, (21:1-7)  
Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19  
Romans 5:1-8  
Matthew 9:35-10:8 (9-23)

## April 2023 Financials

### YTD Actual

Revenues*	\$ 400,219
Expenses	\$ 277,783
Surplus (Deficit)	\$ 22,436

\*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/](http://royallane.org/give/)

Giving menu includes:

General Fund  
The Lowe Scholarship Fund  
Columbarium  
Children's Camp

## Happy Birthday!

**June**

Kirsten Fleenor.....	8
Blake Miller .....	8
Sandy Washington .....	8
Betty Garrett.....	9
Amy Stewart .....	10
Steven Rhodes.....	10
Olivia Simmons .....	11
Bill Ferguson.....	12
Joe Hill .....	16
Scott Bryant .....	17
Martha Hatcher .....	17
Jade Arnswald.....	19
Brittany Wooten Jones.....	19
Darrin Fleenor.....	20



## *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**

**Christian Education: Saturday & Sunday**

**Sunday Worship: 10:55 am**

**Royal Lane Baptist Church**

**6707 Royal Lane**

**Dallas, TX 75230-4145**

**Office: [214] 361-2809**

**[www.royallane.org](http://www.royallane.org)**

**[facebook.com/royallane](https://facebook.com/royallane)**

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Ben Chamero, Livestream Technician  
Brandon Green, Sound Technician  
Barbara Merry, Administrative Assistant  
Ellen Miers, Housekeeping

Rev. Victoria Robb Powers, Senior Pastor  
Blake Vickrey, Sound Technician  
David Weigle, Organist  
Rev. Harry Wooten, Minister of Music and Worship