

ROYAL LANE BAPTIST CHURCH

Diverse People United in Christ

April 27, 2023

The Mosaic

Volume 37, Issue 8

Verbs Not Nouns

Oscar Wilde once said that if you know what you want to be, then you inevitably become it, and that is your punishment. But if you never know, then you can be anything. **We are not nouns, but verbs.** We are not a thing, but a person who does things.

I've been sitting with this for the past several months. Growing up you're always asked what you want to be. You're conditioned to think of your life as a noun. What will you choose? Will you be a lawyer, a doctor, a journalist, an artist, or maybe a pastor?

For most of my life thinking of what I wanted to be gave me great anxiety. What if I chose the wrong thing? Or worse, what if I want to be a lot of things, but I have to give them all up because I can only choose one? That was always the root of my anxiety. I hated the idea of losing options.

I think there's great freedom in thinking of ourselves as a series of verbs instead of nouns. I am a pastor, but what that means is I preach, I teach, I lead, and I care for people. I also mother, I run, I create, I write children's books, I do so many things. Thinking of myself and my ministry as a series of verbs has felt less imprisoning to me, and I think it helps sustain the work I do.

Pastor burnout is a real thing, and I have a lot of friends who have chosen to leave the ministry. I've often wondered if part of the problem is that pastors are conditioned to think of themselves as nouns. They can't be anything else but a pastor. Their whole lives are dedicated to the role. That's both noble, but also unhealthy.

I'm finding a lot of life in thinking of myself not as a pastor but someone who pastors, which then gives me space to also do other things, things that help sustain my ministry. I have a pastor support team who asks me monthly if I'm still doing the things I love outside the church. They're helping hold me accountable to viewing myself as a series of verbs instead of nouns, because like me, they know this will only increase my longevity in ministry.

Wherever you are today, maybe release the nouns you hold over yourselves. What would it mean to you to consider yourself as a person who does things instead of being a thing?

Praying for you always,

Pastor Victoria

*The next issues of The Mosaic are scheduled for May 11 & 25, 2023.
The deadline for submissions will be 5:00 p.m. Monday prior to the date of publication.*

CHILDREN'S CAMP

This year RLBC kids will attend PASSPORTkids Camp.

Saturday–Tuesday, July 22–25

Children's Camp is for kids who have **completed third through sixth grade**. We will travel by bus to the Heart of Texas Baptist Camp and Conference Center near Brownwood. Campers will experience fun recreation, mission focused activities, high-energy worship, interactive Bible study and more, led by camp staff, Royal Lane chaperones will help supervise. Contact Kelley Keith at kkeith19@gmail.com



Cost: \$250, a \$50 deposit guarantees a spot. Full payment due May 31.

Some scholarship assistance can be made available.

Contact Sandy Washington at sandy.washington@gmail.com

“From tolerance, to respect, to loving one another”

Women of the Church

hosting

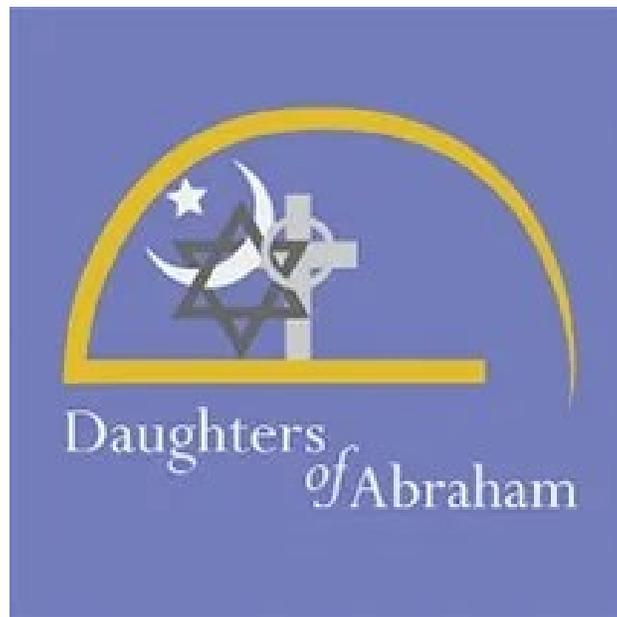
Daughters of Abraham

Thursday, May 18, 2023, 7:00 – 8:30 pm, Vickrey Hall

Guest speaker, Janice Ford, Founder in 2001 after 9/11

Daughters of Abraham is an interfaith group of Jewish, Christian, and Muslim women. No one denies the differences in the faiths, but the focus is on similarities. The women share a love of God and a desire for peace in the community and in the world.

Please join us. As hosts you are invited to bring refreshments. This is not our regular meal, but desserts and finger foods are welcome. Some women are vegetarian.



Coming Events

- Sunday April 30 – Fourth Sunday of Easter**
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 Harry Wooten on his 25th Anniversary at RLBC — Vickrey Hall
- Wednesday May 3**
3:30 pm Holy Rollers — Christian Education Building – Room 201 (3:30 – 5:30 pm)

Wednesday, May 3

**No Midweek Dinner of Midweek Gathering & Study
due to window replacement in Vickrey Hall and
Roof Repair and Construction above Box Gallery**

- 7:00 pm Youth Gathering — Youth Portable (Portable 1)
7:15 pm Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal — Sanctuary
- Saturday May 6**
2:00 pm Questers Class — Zoom
- Sunday May 7 – Fifth Sunday of Easter**
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, Guest Communion offered — Sanctuary & Royal Lane YouTube Channel
Guest Preacher – Danielle Shroyer
Godly Play – Following Time for Young Disciples — Godly Play Room
12:15 pm Missions Division — Room 212
7:30 pm Education Division — Zoom
- Wednesday May 10**
3:30 pm Holy Rollers — Christian Education Building – Room 201 (3:30 – 5:30 pm)
5:30 pm Midweek Dinner — Vickrey Hall
Menu: Beef Tacos with Fixings, Rice, Beans, and a Salad. Dessert: Vanilla Cake
6:00 pm Midweek Gathering & Study: IN FOCUS — Vickrey Hall & Zoom
7:00 pm Youth Gathering — Youth Portable (Portable 1)
7:15 pm Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal — Sanctuary
- Thursday May 11 — Mosaic, Volume 37, No. 9**
- Saturday May 13**
9:00 am Second Saturday Work Day (9:00 am – 12:00 pm)
2:00 pm Questers 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

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.

Coming to the Box Gallery

“Traveling Shoes: Oils and Watercolors by Sherry Houpt”

Exhibit Dates to be determined.

Artist Reception with Guitar Music by Stephen Houpt – *date and time to be determined.*

Meet the Artist, Wednesday, May 31, 4:00 – 6:00 pm, Box Gallery

Sherry Houpt is an award-winning Dallas artist who works primarily in oils and watercolor. She first put on “traveling shoes” to explore the woods and gardens surrounding her home in Tyler, Texas, and later, Abilene, Texas. Over the years, she has sketched and painted “en plein air” (outdoors) in Texas, the Southwest and Midwest. In October, Sherry had the opportunity to take her art gear and adventurous spirit to the Tuscany area of Italy on an art retreat. Working in the studio and outdoors are both important to Sherry. She loves the translucency of watercolor and the buttery richness of oils. The discipline of working in these mediums keep her engaged with personal expression. The paintings in this exhibit are centered in her abiding sense of love for nature, travel, and people in their environments.

Sherry has a BFA from the University of North Texas, with additional studies at the University of Dallas, Savannah College of Art and Design and in workshops with Stephen Zhang and Kevin MacPherson. During the pandemic, she participated in Streamline Publishing's Watercolor Live, Plein Air Live, and Realism Live.

Sherry's 35 years of experience as an art instructor and former jewelry designer inform many of her creative endeavors. Her work is found in many local collections, and she has shown her art in local, regional, and national juried exhibitions. Professional affiliations include the Nasher Sculpture Center Teacher Advisory Board, volunteer juror for Business Council for the Arts, Plein Air Painters of New Mexico, Plein Air Painters of Chicago, and the Irving Arts Center. Sherry taught Art for more than three decades at the Shelton School, a private school and resource center dedicated to making a difference by serving and empowering the lives of students who learn differently.

“Sherry exemplifies someone who truly lives life as an artist. By consistently showing up for her creative passion, following her curiosity and focusing on the joy of her process, throughout the years, she’s created an adventurous artistic style that’s as engaging and colorful as her life!”

—Jill Allison Bryan ~ *Creative Oasis Coaching*”

Website: <https://www.sherryhoupt.com>



Deacons of the Week

April 30

John Helms
Cookie Stokes

May 7

Nate Green
Cheryl Robinson

Scriptures of the Week

April 30

Acts 2:42-47
1 Peter 2:19-25

Psalm 23
John 10:1-10

May 7

Acts 7:55-60
1 Peter 2:2-10

Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16
John 14:1-14

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

May 3

No Evening Program or Meal
due to construction in
Vickrey Hall and
above the Box Gallery

May 10

IN FOCUS

Topic to be announced
Join us for a Fellowship Meal on May 10
at 5:30 pm.
Announcements, Birthday Celebrations

March 2023 Financials

	YTD Actual
Revenues*	\$ 241,756
Expenses	\$ 205,283
Surplus (Deficit)	\$ 36,473

*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
Children's Camp

Happy Birthday!

April

Theresa Helms.....29

May

Jaxson Hill.....1

Patsy Meier1

Ken Rempert3

Barbara Merry5

Linda Collier9

Sharon Vickrey9

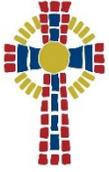


In the Box Gallery
Coming Soon

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.



Royal Lane Baptist Church

6707 Royal Lane

Dallas, Texas 75230-4145

ROYAL LANE BAPTIST CHURCH

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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

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www.royallane.org

facebook.com/royallane

Ben Chamero, Livestream Technician

Brandon Green, Sound Technician

Barbara Merry, Administrative Assistant

Ellen Miers, Housekeeping

Rev. Victoria Robb Powers, Senior Pastor

Janet Schultz, Administrative Assistant

Blake Vickrey, Sound Technician

David Weigle, Organist

Rev. Harry Wooten, Minister of Music and Worship