

The Messiah Messenger



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Visit Us
www.mlhouston.org

Worship with Us
Sunday service @ 9am
In-Person and Facebook Live

Find us on Facebook at
Messiah Houston

Off-street parking available

Messiah Modifies COVID Protocols

“By God’s grace we were able to resume in-person worship in May of 2020,” Pastor Tim Engel stated.

“Now, after a year without any coronavirus outbreaks in the congregation, we are comfortable modifying our COVID protocols.”

The church will continue to practice social distancing by marking off every other pew. However, wearing a mask or face-covering will now be optional for worshippers.

“Many of our members have been vaccinated against the virus,” Engel explained. “They are ready to take this step.”

Engel also spoke about how his

members have coped with the pandemic.

“People took what they each considered reasonable precautions in how they lived their lives.”

Engel further stated, “They also lived out their faith in God’s promise of eternal life should they get sick and not survive the virus. They know that they would go to be with the Lord.”

The decision to modify the congregation’s protocols was made at the April Voters Meeting, based on the recommendation of the Church Council.

The decision by the voters was unanimous.

Prayer in Time of Pandemic

Almighty God, merciful Father, Your thoughts are not our thoughts, Your ways are not our ways. In Your wisdom You have permitted this pandemic to befall us. We implore You, let not the hearts of Your people despair nor our faith fail us, but sustain and comfort us. Direct all efforts to attend the sick, console the bereaved, and protect the helpless. Bring hope and healing that we find relief and restoration; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Daily — Doggedly — Daringly
Embracing Our Neighbors with Jesus’ Unconditional Love



Gabriel's Glad Tidings



Hey friends,

Last month I went to my first ever blood drive!

There were needles and tubes and machines and bags...all sorts of medical stuff...and snacks for the blood donors.

Me, I got lots of hugs and pets (which are really better than snacks).

Two of my handlers, John and Pastor Tim even gave blood while we were there.

They say that giving blood is like giving the gift of life, because blood donations can save lives.

If that's true, my Jesus was the greatest blood donor ever!

My Jesus says, *"If we walk in the light, as God is in the light, the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin"* (1 John 1:7).

John and Pastor Tim's blood could very well save lives. That's important.

What is more important is that my Jesus shed His blood on the cross to save people for all eternity! Does it get any better than that?!?

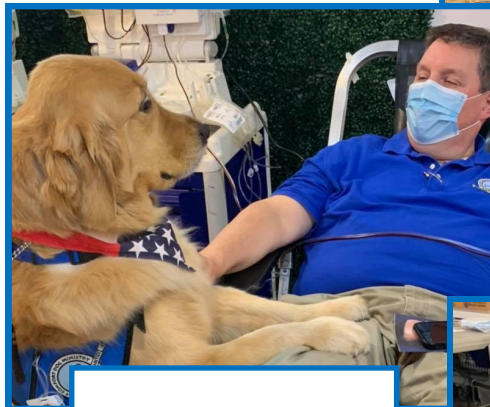
It sounds like giving blood is a really good thing to do. Pastor Tim even says that Messiah will host a blood drive. I'd like that!

What I'd like even more is if you always remember that my Jesus gave His blood for you so you can have eternal life.

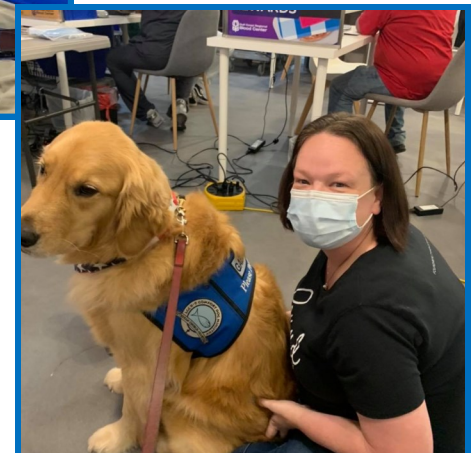
Keep that in mind and stay PAW-SOME!

— Your friend Gabriel

Jena Turner, owner
of Found Realty



"How are you doing
there, Pastor Tim?"



From the Pastor



Jesus, Thy blood and
righteousness

My beauty are, my
glorious dress;

Midst flaming worlds,
in these arrayed,

With joy shall I lift up
my head.

Lord, I believe Thy
precious blood,

Which at the mercy-
seat of God

Forever doth for sin-
ners plead,

For me--e'en for my
soul--was shed.

When from the dust of
death I rise

To claim my mansion
in the skies,

E'en then, this shall be
all my plea:

Jesus hath lived and
died for me.

— *Nicholaus Ludwig von
Zinzendorf*
(John Wesley, translator)

Dear Friends in Christ,

As you read on Gabriel's newsletter page, last month we participated in a blood drive. As I looked at the setting for the blood drive, I thought, "We could do this at Messiah in our Fellowship Center."



**Gulf Coast Regional
Blood Center**

After a phone call to the Gulf Coast Regional Blood Center, we set Saturday, June 5, as our date to host a blood drive.

We have three very good reasons to host a blood drive.

- 1) There is always a need for blood. Gulf Coast Regional Blood Center needs 1,000 donations every day of the year to serve patients in our community.
- 2) The blood drive will give our members and people in our community to save lives. **Red blood cells** are used to treat cancer, surgery, and trauma patients. **Plasma** often is needed to replace fluids in burn and trauma patients. **Platelets** help cancer and bone marrow transplant patients recover. Giving blood is one way to love our neighbors as ourselves.
- 3) We will have the opportunity to welcome our neighbors to our church and offer them our hospitality. Messiah is a church that cares about its neighborhood. We look for ways to be a benefit to the folks that live and work near us. This blood drive, along with our other outreach efforts, is part of our commitment to our neighborhood and beyond.

This month you will receive more information about the blood drive. Right now I ask that you mark the date, June 5, on your calendar. In addition to blood donors, we will need volunteers to greet people as they arrive, register them, and provide snacks for them after they donate.

For more information about donating blood, visit the Gulf Coast Regional Blood Center website at www.giveblood.org.

In Christ,

Pastor Engel

Commit for Life.[®]