

Messiah Lutheran Church
816 Roy St.
Houston, TX 77007

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The Messiah Messenger



Pastor Timothy Engel
messiahpastor@att.net

Contact Us
messiahhouston@att.net
713-861-3072

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

SOON Third Ward Church Launches

On Sunday, August 22, the SOON Third Ward Church, a mission plant five years in the making, held its launching service.

SOON is a daughter congregation of St. Mark Lutheran Church in Spring Branch.

Its pastor, Rev. Howard Thomas, along with his wife Alyssa, began this church by hosting potluck dinners in their home and doing other outreach in the neighborhood.



Left to right: Joy, Gabriel and Damaris share their love with Pastor Thomas

The Houston area Comfort Dogs were invited to be a part of the church launch.

Messiah's Team Gabriel joined with Joy (Gloria Dei, Nassau Bay) and Damaris (Memorial, Katy) Comfort Dogs and their handlers to welcome people as they arrived for the event and see them off after the service.

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



Gabriel's Glad Tidings



Hey friends,

One of my friends that I work with at Memorial Elementary School is Miss Elam, the school counselor.

She tells students that her job is to help make their hearts happy.

You know what? That's my job, too!

When I see people smile at me, I know that their heart is happy.

When they pet and hug me, I know that makes their hearts happy, too.

Making someone else's heart happy makes my heart happy, too!

That's why Miss Elam and I both love our jobs so much.

My Jesus also wants us to have happy hearts.

He says, **"Let not your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me"** (John 14:1).

When your heart is troubled or sad or scared or lonely, let my Jesus give your heart a much-needed lift.

Remember how much He loves you and how He takes care of you.

Remember that He died to save you and is preparing a place for you in heaven.

Remember that my Jesus is always with you and will never leave you.

My Jesus says, **"A joyful heart is good medicine"** (Proverbs 17:22).

So I hope that you have a joyful, happy heart today and every day — and stay PAWSOME!

— Your friend Gabriel



Hanging out with Miss Elam's morning group



Left to right: Dr. Garcia, Miss Elam, Mrs. Moore and Coach Green

From the Pastor



The Bible says, “Train up a child in the way he should go; even when he is old he will not depart from it” (Proverbs 22:6).

Here at Messiah we have abundant opportunities to be a part of the important work of bringing children to Jesus, from toddlers to teens.

Dear Friends in Christ,

Sunday, September 12, is our Christian Education Sunday.

When it comes to Christian education, Messiah is triply blessed.

The first blessing is our *Early Childhood Center’s* ministry to young children and their families.

This ministry gives us the opportunity to teach children about Jesus and His love for them.

The Gospel of Jesus is shared daily by Stacey Viviano, Directress of the Early Childhood Center, and her staff and also when I lead chapel for the children each week.

The second blessing is our partnership with *Lutheran High North*.

Every week the students and staff at LHN receive a visit from Gabriel Comfort Dog and his handlers.

Gabriel also attends special events at the high school such as graduation and other celebrations.

To show our appreciation for LHN, we have invited their staff to be recognized at Messiah on Christian Education Sunday.

The third blessing comes in the form of *Messiah members who are teachers* themselves.

Currently we have two full-time teachers in the congregation, Miss Jennifer Stallings and my wife, Kim, who are both teachers at St. Mark Lutheran School.

Jennifer, a daughter of the congregation and a graduate of Concordia University Texas in Austin, teaches Third Grade and has just begun her eleventh year at St. Mark.

Kim, a graduate of Concordia College in Ann Arbor, Michigan, taught for four years in Spring Branch ISD and has begun her second year at St. Mark teaching the Bridge Class.

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In Christ,

Pastor Engel