

Messiah Lutheran Church 816 Roy St. Houston, TX 77007

Volume 9, Number 6 June 2024

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

FB: *Messiah Houston* IG: *messiah_houston*

Off-street parking available





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



Hey friends,

Do I smell brisket or is it just my imagination? Who knows?

But I do know that the aroma of brisket will be in the air when we go to Camp Hope this month.

Even though it's been a while since we have been there (especially in dog years) I remember how much fun I had with the veterans at Camp Hope.

These warriors acted like little boys when they saw Damaris Comfort Dog and me as they gave us plenty of pets and hugs and snuggles.

My Jesus calls us warriors, too. He says, **"Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil**" (Ephesians 6:11).

That armor includes the shield of faith and the sword of the Spirit, God's Word.

When your armor is in place, you can resist your enemy, the devil, and all his evil plans.

And my Jesus is with you in your battles to keep you safe, like my handlers keep me safe.

And you know for sure that that old devil can't hold a candle to my Jesus.

Isn't that PAWSOME?

Your friend, Gabriel

















O God, Our Help in Ages Past

O God, our help in ages past, Our hope for years to come, Our shelter from the stormy blast, And our eternal home:

Under the shadow of Thy throne Thy saints have dwelt secure; Sufficient is Thine arm alone, And our defense is sure.

Before the hills in order stood Or earth received her frame, From everlasting Thou art God, To endless years the same.

O God, our help in ages past, Our hope for years to come, Be Thou our guard while life shall last And our eternal home!

Isaac Watts

Dear Friends in Christ,

Greetings in the name of Jesus!

This month we are returning to Camp Hope and I could not be happier.

When I came here eight years ago (yeah, it's been that long) y'all were ready and eager to do outreach events in the community.

We started by applying for a Comfort Dog, and Gabriel has been such a blessing to our outreach and caring ministries.

Messiah Lutheran Church develops disciples who are:



We are in the business of making disciples... who make disciples. Then we started hosting events like Evening with Santa and Springfest, formed community partnerships with Memorial Elementary School and Lutheran North, and provided meals for the men at Camp Hope, just to name a few of our outreach efforts.

However, when COVID came along, we, like most other churches, experienced a setback in our ministry.

It's taken time for us to regroup, and I see our return to Camp Hope as the start of a new chapter for Messiah.

Our first one hundred years as a congregation are in the books, so to speak, and it's time for us to move forward into, Lord willing, our next one hundred years.

One way that we can do this is to truly believe our theme for this year, "Our God Can Do More!"

Do you truly believe that God can do more than we ask or imagine, that He has more in store for our church and our ministries? I do!

We also need to focus on being mature disciples of Jesus, followers of Jesus who are **united to Him** in baptism, **transformed by Him** through Word and Sacrament, and **obedient to Him** for the growth of His church.

I'm excited for what the future will bring to Messiah and am eager to lead our congregation into that future.

Yours in Christ, Pastor Engel