

In February, Triton was invited to Bush Elementary Kindergarten class in St Paul, Tx, where one of their students, Finley, passed away from cancer on Valentine's Day. Triton and his handlers, 4 counselors, and the principal, shared some love and compassion as the students shared their feelings and how they missed their dear friend. They also visited the 2nd grade and 3rd grade classes of Finley's siblings. The classes discussed how they would welcome back Blake and Jaxon, and show their friendship and support for the loss of their sister. The principal said she felt we made a difference. We will continue to keep them in our prayers. As we departed, we saw many kids on the way out that wanted a quick pet, but we could not get around to all the 800 children that attend there!! Submitted by Jerry and Jane Baedke



COMFORT DOG MINISTRY LUNCH & LEARN

APRIL 14, 12:00 NOON

DO YOU LOVE TRITON? DO YOU LIKE MAKING PEOPLE SMILE?
Have you ever thought about helping in this ministry,
but just don't know how?



If so, then this Lunch and Learn is just for you!! We are looking for people who:

- Love dogs, specifically Triton
- Like to make people smile
- Have a few hours available in either the morning or afternoon
- Have flexible work hours
- Have a job that allows you to take time off to volunteer
- Are a teen who wants to help over school breaks and/or Sundays
- Are a teen who needs community service hours for school
- Have compassion for people hurting and in need of comfort



If any of these are you, we would love to chat! We are looking for more handlers and ministry partners. At this lunch and learn, you will learn more about the ministry, how you can help, and even learn a few basic commands all while holding Triton's leash.



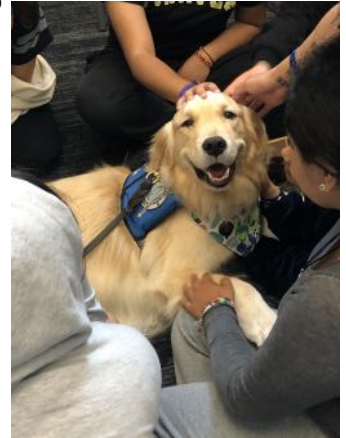
Sign up or talk to a handler, so we can estimate how many to plan for lunch at Triton's Lunch and Learn on April 14, right after the late service.

For more information about the Comfort Dog Ministry, contact our "Top Dog" Carolyn Nussman, email: messiahk9comfort@gmail.com
Triton's Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/TritonComfortDog>
Triton's Instagram page: <https://www.instagram.com/lck9triton/>



Did you know that when an LCC comfort dog is named they are also given their own bible verse? Triton's bible verse is Mark 10:45 "For even the son of man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many." I used to take Triton on bi-monthly visits to the Phoenix house in downtown Dallas.

Unfortunately, it recently lost funding, so it had to close. Carolyn Nussman made the first initial visit to meet with the staff and a few board members to establish a relationship and set up a visitation schedule in January 2020. And then, the Covid crisis hit and we were unable to make visits for quite a while. Once they deemed it safe for visits, the handlers were required to go through drug and tb testing as well as a background check to protect their residents. It was a lot of effort, but definitely worth it! We made bi-monthly visits to the Phoenix House for over two years and met several wonderful teenagers in the midst of battling drug and/or alcohol addiction. I began my experience as a ministry partner and then once I became a handler, it became my regular visit with Triton. There are many wonderful memories of how God used our time there, but one in particular stands out. One of the young men I had the privilege to watch grow with the Lord every visit with Triton as his bridge. On Triton's many bandanas are his Bible verse Mark 10:45, and during one visit this young man asked me about it. The next visit, his last before he was leaving, he declared he had chosen his own bible verse Psalm 37:19 "They will not be ashamed in the time of evil, and in the days of famine they will have abundance."



Triton's impact on our church and society is immeasurable. He is a beacon of hope and a constant reminder that even in the darkest of times, there is a light to guide us. With his unwavering loyalty and unconditional love, Triton continues to inspire and uplift our community making a lasting difference in the lives of those he encounters. *Michele Haugen*

What is the future of the Comfort Dog ministry at Messiah?



Did you know from the time we apply for a 'replacement' dog, the wait is approximately 3 years?

Triton is almost 7. We noticed at the annual conference this summer the dogs eternally deployed in the last several years the 'average' age of ministry dogs service was about 9 years. Messiah can't get in line for a replacement UNTIL we have a Top Dog and Caregiver in place. The Top Dog oversees the ministry team, communicates with LCC and other Top Dogs about the ministry, etc.. The dog lives with the caregiver and they are responsible for the care of the dog. (All expenses are reimbursed).

If we were to receive the replacement dog before Triton retires, the new dog would shadow Triton on all visits to establish itself with the current places he visits, and then when it's time for Triton to retire, the replacement then carries on the ministry work. We are asking for Messiah members to think, pray and talk about this ministry. If the above positions mentioned are not for you, perhaps you know someone within the church who might be a good fit for work in this ministry. **A special information meeting will be held here at Messiah on Sunday, April 14th, at 12:00 Noon.** Feel free to sit in and here more details about what this ministry. You can also reach out to Carolyn Nussman (214-773-3200) or at [MessiahK9Comfort@gmail.com](mailto: MessiahK9Comfort@gmail.com) about the role of Top Dog and Marti Matz (972-207-5663) about the Caregiver role. You may also call the church office at 972-398-7500.

HAPPY 7th BIRTHDAY TRITON!
On **Sunday, March 17th**, please stop by the Reception room next to the Gift Shop to say hello to Triton and his *team* and pick up a special giveaway to celebrate his birthday on March 16th.





COMFORT DOG MINISTRY



FEBRUARY

TRITON COMFORT DOG VISITS SHUT-INS

2024

Triton Comfort Dog
Messiah Lutheran - Plano, TX

Triton loves to get out and visit the community, however one of his favorite visits is when he goes to visit a shut-in. Ulla is a shut-in at 97 years old and grew up with a pet dog all her life. Triton has made several visits to see her and she is always excited to see him when he comes. Here are some comments from her family.

We cannot express our gratitude for the time Triton (along with the two of you) have spent with our mom, Ulla. I know there is nothing that brings more joy to mom than seeing and being able to pet Triton. Mom has always loved dogs and has always had one from the time she was a small child up until about 10 years ago. When our dad was moved into assisted living about 5 years ago was when the loss of her canine companionship was felt the most. Thank you again for the visits and caring you have been giving to mom allowing her some moments of joy. If you are a shut-in or have a family member that is, and would love a visit from Triton, please contact us 972-398-7557 or email us at Triton@K9Comfort.org so we can make arrangements for that visit. Submitted by: Jane Baedke



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COMFORT DOG MINISTRY

December 2023

The Triton Comfort Dog ministry continues to go out on a weekly basis bringing comfort, joy, and lots of smiles to memory care facilities, schools, rehab facilities, and other locations throughout the community. We praise God for opening doors and providing new ways to serve Him and Share His Light along with our pal Triton! As always, we are grateful for such a supportive congregation, and we pray that you and those you love will receive the peace and wonder of this Advent season!



Friday, November 17, Triton joined Team Elijah of Wichita Falls for an event at Sheppard Air Force base.



Teams Triton, Martha, and Persis made a trip to Uvalde on **Monday, November 27th** to bring comfort to the administrative staff, teachers, and students in Uvalde following the loss of the Assistant principal of Uvalde High School.

Permanently Deployed Serving the Saints-Our LCC K9 Comfort Dog Southwest region mourns the loss of two of our Comfort dogs. Abner Comfort Dog from Bethany in Austin on October 30, and Miriam Comfort Dog from Emmanuel in Kingfisher, Oklahoma on November 20. It is a sober reminder that we must make the most of our time with these amazing animals and we praise God for the wonderful work that each of these Comfort dogs did in their time here on earth.



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Merry Christmas & a blessed 2024 from the Triton Comfort Dog Ministry team!



COMFORT DOG MINISTRY



We say goodbye to one of our faithful team members. Lois McCulloch (shown here in October 2018) was one of our first Ministry partners on the Comfort Dog Ministry team. Lois entered her eternal rest on October 6. She became a member of Messiah Lutheran church in 1964. Since then, she has served in many different ministries and volunteered countless hours for various projects. It was our pleasure and privilege to work with her in the Comfort dog ministry, and she will be greatly missed!

What is the future of the Comfort Dog ministry at Messiah?



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Encompass Rehab-October



Mustang Creek Assisted Living in Frisco-

Join Triton and team members at the annual **Grief sharing seminar** beginning at 1:30 PM in the Chapel. For more details, see information on page 7.

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COMFORT DOG MINISTRY

Choctaw High School Visit



Triton Comfort Dog
Messiah Lutheran - Plano, TX

The day was filled with crisscrossing the large campus. We met several of the students who were injured while attempting to climb over the 10-foot fence to get out of harm's way. The last class of the day was a visit to the ROTC room. As we entered the room, there was a young girl on the floor near the entrance of the classroom and this was where Triton decided he should stop. As the Commander told the students they had a pass on class assignments to spend time with the dogs he quietly said "especially this one" as he looked down at the student where Triton had decided to park himself. As I attempted to engage her, she said there was a problem with her mother, but beyond that she didn't share. We had a prayer together and my heart was heavy because it was obvious she was struggling emotionally. Triton did a lap (doggie hug as many of us call it) to put a smile on her face. Later we found out that on Saturday the day after the stadium shooting her mother assaulted her, police were called, and she was removed from the home and living with her best friend's family. She later returned with a police officer to retrieve her clothes only to discover her mom had destroyed every piece of clothing and everything she had. We went to comfort the students after a frightening event only to realize that students there and most likely in our own local schools often struggle with events out of their control within their families and communities.

Marti Matz



What is the future of the Comfort Dog ministry at Messiah?



Triton Comfort Dog
Messiah Lutheran - Plano, TX

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COMFORT DOG MINISTRY



Triton Comfort Dog
Messiah Lutheran - Plano, TX

After a 3 year hiatus, the LCC-K9 Comfort Dog Conference was held in July and hosted over 500 attendees and 90 Comfort Dogs. This conference is an opportunity for the other Comfort dog teams across our nation to gather and benefit from teaching that increases our knowledge useful for ministry as well as refresher training with the dogs. It's also a wonderful time to fellowship with each other and offer encouragement and share experiences.



Susan Shehan, Kathy Mardis, Carolyn Nussman, Jane Baedke, Triton, & Marti Matz



Southwest Region teams

Comfort Dog Ministry celebrates 5 years at Messiah Lutheran!

On Sunday, August 20, the Comfort Dog Ministry celebrated 5 years serving the Lord at Messiah. On August 26, 2018, Triton and his team were officially commissioned to serve the Lord as representatives of Messiah Lutheran and Lutheran Church Charities, so each year we like to commemorate the beginning of this special ministry and extend our gratitude to our supportive congregation.

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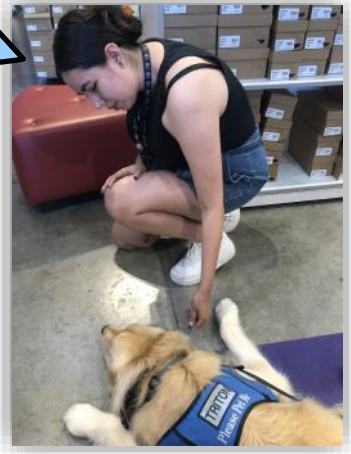
Welcome to Messiah Micah and Rebekah!



Lynridge Assisted Living and Memory Care June 8.



Steve Madden store Allen Outlet Mall June 11.



Vacation Bible School June 26-30.



LCC K-9 COMFORT DOG CONFERENCE
Our team attended the Comfort Dog Conference in Northbrook July 26-28. Pictures and news in next month's article.



ANNIVERSARY RECOGNITION
On **August 26, 2018**, Triton became an LCC K-9 Comfort Dog and the Comfort Dog ministry officially kicked off here at Messiah. We want to thank the congregation for your wonderful support and praise God for the privilege to Share His Light!

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COMFORT DOG MINISTRY

Uvalde Anniversary Deployment 2023



Going into the week of deployment, there were feelings of apprehension, concerns and many questions. What would the mood of the town be like with all the drama the community has dealt with since the tragedy? What would the media presence be like? What would the security be like?

This is not the same community we saw pulling together in their grief immediately after the tragedy. It is now a community divided. Many who have a strong faith know they will be reunited with their love one in the future, have found purpose and are ready to move on. An example is April, Mackenna's mom. Her faith is strong, and she has now trained Makenna's Golden to serve in ministry work. Her heart is heavy for those who don't have a faith to hold onto or have drifted away. While others are on the cusp of being able to move beyond that horrific day and smile again, many others are still stuck in the anger stage of grief, continuing to point fingers and wanting justice, which in turn causes more ripple effects in the very connected community. It was wonderful to see children smiling and laughing, but often the mood would shift when in the presence of parents.



Security was high with State Troopers continuing to be a presence at the schools and in the community. The community opted for vigils, and private family events and kept it low key. LCC dispersed teams in many different directions to love on kids and staff at the schools, being on site at the town square, being present at the vigils, visiting hospital personnel, school bus depot, 911 call center, and many more. We, and other teams, had time to connect with those who have developed personal relationships in the community.



Triton met Rojelio's little sister Mary at Dalton Elementary and surprised her with a stuffie when we left that day. It was surprising to hear her talk about her mom's reaction to that day and not her own. LCC had put the word out on social media that we would have some community visiting time at Walmart. Her family came to see the dogs and were loved on by all the dogs and handlers. We later learned that this was their first interaction with the dogs because they had simply spent time together and had not interacted in many community activities.

Our God moment was meeting the Jackie Cazer's family at the cemetery. We witnessed tears being wiped as we encountered the family, but those were quickly replaced with smiles and comments of joy with Triton's presence. (Ask Jane or Marti about it!) It was heartwarming at another later event when Jazmine Cazer's, Jackie's older sister came up to Triton, lovingly grabbed his face, looked into his eyes and said "I know you!" with a big smile on her face.



We met William, a child that doesn't want to leave his home, but when he learned about the dogs at a church function, he was willing to leave to come see them. Judging by his parents' reaction, it was a special moment and, again, we shared another stuffie with the parents for him.

After a year of counseling, the teachers and staff who were in the wing the day of the tragedy, were given the opportunity to re-enter the wing where the shooting occurred to give them closure. We were asked to join with Martha and Abner's team to provide comfort.

This year has been very stressful for the teachers, students, and staff with 50+ bail-out lockdowns occurring during the school year. Bail-outs are when illegals being pursued in high-speed chases through town (only 65 miles from the border) will in desperation bail out and run. Doing the math that is about 1 or more per week! On the last day, as another handler was helping a teacher carry out items going home, it was noticed she had a bullet-proof vest in her bag. Whether this was a school distributed item or a personal purchase, one can only imagine the stress these teachers were dealing with.

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Thank you, once again, to all our Messiah families who pray for this ministry and make contributions to support Triton. Without you, this opportunity to serve beyond our church would not be possible. During sharing time, we were reminded of John 1:1-5 focusing on verse 5 'The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.' Please continue to pray for this community. *Marti Matz and Jane Baedke*



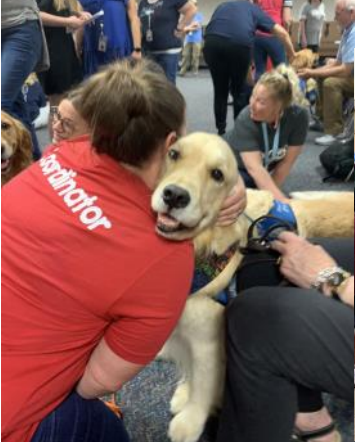
COMFORT DOG MINISTRY



ALLEN OUTLET MALL SHOOTING-The violence we see on the news in other cities came to our region recently. Thankfully, the Triton Comfort Dog team was joined by 6 other teams to encourage those reeling from the trauma. A very special thank you to Amy Plenger & Katherine Wolfe for serving at the prayer service held on 5/7 and to Jane Baedke & Marti Matz for serving Monday-Wednesday. Jane & Marti along with the other teams made many visits to schools including Cox Elementary, first response personnel, and a vigil on Wednesday evening. The impact of this tragedy will cause ripple effects for a long time, but we pray God can continue to use us to bring hope through His love and compassion.



I just wanted to say thank you for bringing Triton to Cox Elementary this morning regarding the Allen Shooting. Peyton is also a second grader, just as Sofia was. Peyton knew her but not very well. We had the horrible task of telling Peyton what happened to her, and she just couldn't grasp it. When your eight-year-old asks, "Well, what did she do wrong? Why didn't she run? Why did he pick her?" It's a horrible feeling. Peyton loves Triton, and it was less than 10 seconds, and she found him out of all the other dogs. Thank you so much for bringing Triton into her church life. She instantly felt better. His purpose is a blessing to many. -Keri Moyer



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Arbor Hills-3.30



Atria-4.6



Visit with Ron Keay



Visit with Lillian & Virginia Chappelle

Broadmoor Medical Lodge-4.7



Family Easter Celebration @ Messiah



Lynridge Assisted Living-4.13



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Appletree Court



Brookdale-3.1



Rockbrook Elementary 3.6

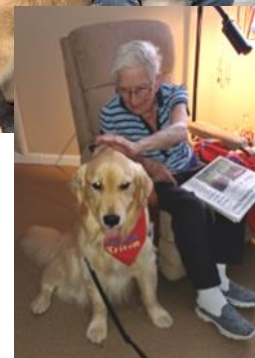
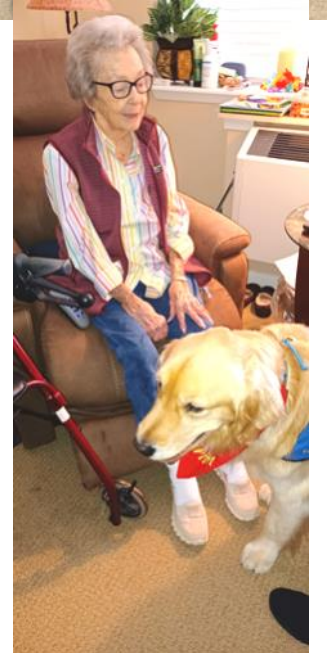


LWML Meeting-3.8

HAPPY 6th BIRTHDAY TRITON! Triton turned 6 years old on March 16th, so the Comfort Dog team invited the congregation to celebrate with them on **Sunday, March 12th** with a reception in between services. Our new DCE Intern Micah and his fiancé Rebekah stopped by as well. There were prizes, cupcakes, and of course Triton hugs! During the service Offertory, an original song about the Comfort Dog ministry was sung to accompany a slide presentation. The "pawtying" didn't end there though, on his actual birthday, the residents of Atria wanted to show their appreciation by celebrating with him at his visit with them. Our ministry received many gifts and donations from the congregation and from the LWML. We are blessed to serve the Lord through the Comfort Dog ministry here at Messiah!



Lynridge Assisted Living and Memory



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Villagio Senior Living



Center for Discovery



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Arbor Hills Memory Care

MESSIAH LAMBS LUTHERAN SCHOOLS WEEK-Triton made an appearance at the Lambs school to make a few class visits as they wrapped up Lutheran Schools Week. The Lambs students are always thrilled to see Triton and he thinks they are awesome too! Our team members were challenged to donate boxes of cereal and did a great job in helping them reach a total of 335 boxes of cereal for the cereal box domino train. Lots of smiles and lots of cereal for the Network of Community Services!



Atria Senior Living



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MINISTRY PARTNER MEETING-For the monthly Ministry Partner meeting, Team Triton gathered on Valentine's day and enjoyed heart shaped pizza, yummy goodies, fellowship, and caught up on events and announcements. Triton was there of course to spread his golden love and it was a busy day with visits to Appletree Court, The Hope Center, and Arbor Hills as well!



COMFORT DOG MINISTRY

FEBRUARY

2023

Pastor Jim Otte, **Pastoral Leader**
Carolyn Nussman, **Ministry Leader/ "Top Dog"**
Marti & Steve Matz, **Primary Caregivers**
Jane & Jerry Baedke, **Back-up Caregivers**

Ministry Partners for Visits

Kathy Koeneman
Linda Sawyers
Susan Shehan
Joseph Schinnerer
Pat Thompson

**Messiah Lutheran Church
Comfort Dog Ministry
team for the 2023 year.**

Handers-

Jane Baedke
Jerry Baedke
Mary Jo Cuny
Michele Haugen
Kathy Mardis
Marti Matz

Michele Matz
Steve Matz
Carolyn Nussman
Amy Plenger
Katherine Wolfe

Ministry Partners for Special Projects

Joyce Laux
Amanda Leslie
Lois McCulloch
Gail Reiman
Linda Thompson
Sue Thornton
Renee Whaling

TRITON COMFORT DOG MINISTRY SEEKING MINISTRY PARTNERS!

A NEW
YEAR
&
NEW
OPPORTUNITIES

The list above may seem like a lot of people, but we are always searching for new partners. Life is full of unexpected circumstances that come up such as illness, appointments, emergencies, etc. and when that happens, we need substitutes. We invite you to learn more about how you can become a part of this unique and rewarding ministry. You may be surprised that working with our handlers is not as time consuming as you think. And, although it's a plus to love dogs (and especially Triton), you do **NOT** have to handle him or care for him. That is the job of the Handler. While on a visit, your main job is to help the Handler with the people on the visit. The visits typically only last an hour, so if you have an hour a week, you should join them on one of the visits and see what it's all about!

If you have interest in learning more about Messiah's Comfort Dog Ministry as a Ministry Partner assisting Triton and his handlers on their visits, or perhaps another special skill you possess that you could share, please contact Carolyn Nussman at MessiahK9Comfort@gmail.com.

LOVE in ACTION



Brookdale Senior Living



Villagio Senior Living



Arbor Hills Memory Care



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HAPPY BIRTHDAY

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As we begin the new year, we would like to share a brief glimpse of the previous year of service of the Triton Comfort Dog ministry and the many different ways we "Share the Light" of Jesus!

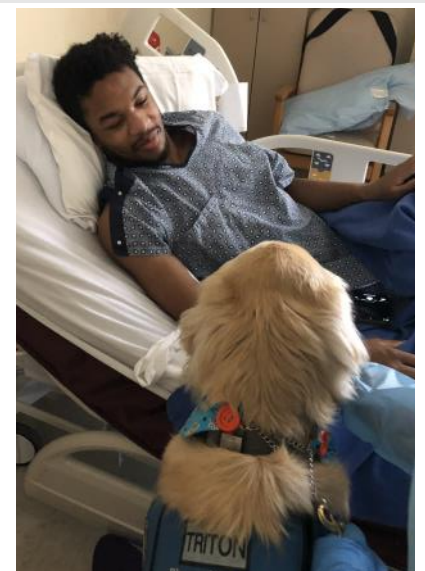
January-Lambs Students



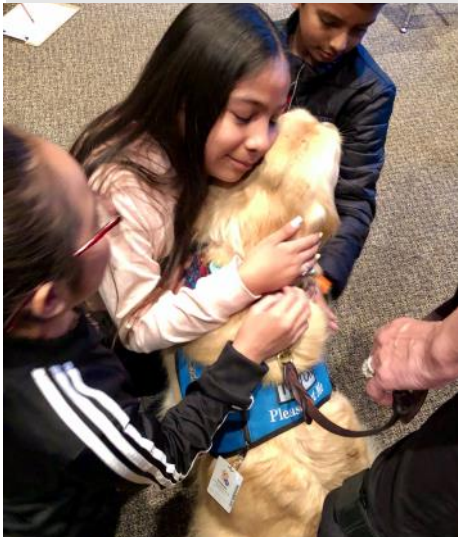
February-Phoenix House



March-Lifecare Rehab



April-Jacksboro Elementary



May-Messiah member home visit



June-Center For Discovery



July-National Youth Gathering



August-Comforting a grieving family



September-Uvalde School children



October-UTD



November-Prince of Peace School



December-Hope Center



COMFORT DOG TEAM CHRISTMAS GATHERING

On **Tuesday, December 13th**, the Triton Comfort Dog Ministry met to fellowship and celebrate a wonderful year serving the Lord. We missed some of our team mates who could not attend, but we look forward to serving with them in the new year. Would you like to be in this picture next year? We are always looking for new Ministry partners. See information in the article below.



A NEW YEAR & NEW OPPORTUNITIES

TRITON COMFORT DOG MINISTRY SEEKING MINISTRY PARTNERS

Are you:

- A dog lover?
- Recently retired?
- Employed but working flexible hours?
- A people person?
- Active and mobile?
- Interested in spending a couple of daytime hours per week in a meaningful way?
- Looking for an opportunity to serve on a flexible schedule?

We would love to talk with you about joining Messiah's Comfort Dog Ministry as a Ministry Partner, assisting Triton and his handlers on their visits. Please contact Carolyn Nussman at [MessiahK9Comfort@gmail.com](mailto: MessiahK9Comfort@gmail.com).



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Triton's Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/TritonComfortDog>

Triton's Instagram page: <https://www.instagram.com/lccck9triton/>



COMFORT DOG MINISTRY

DECEMBER 2022

Here we are in the Advent season once again and that means not only are we focusing on the birth of Jesus, but it also means yet another year has passed. So many wonderful memories to reflect back on as we served the Lord through Messiah Lutheran Church. At this time of the year when everyone thinks of "gifts," we think of "presents" just spelled differently... →



The LCC K-9 Comfort dogs are a bridge of compassionate ministry, opening doors for conversation about faith and creating opportunities to share the mercy, compassion, **PRESENCE** and proclamation of Jesus Christ!



Good Samaritan Fall Festival-Oct. 18



Villagio-October 19



Prince Of Peace School-Oct 24th



UTD-October 24



Greenwood Hills-October 25



Team Joy Handler Funeral in Houston-October 28



Christ the King Lutheran Church, Waxahachie Trunk or Treat October 29



MLC Trunk or Treat-October 30



Merry Christmas & a blessed 2023 from the Triton Comfort Dog Ministry team!

For more information about the Comfort Dog Ministry, contact our "Top Dog" Carolyn Nussman, email: messiahk9comfort@gmail.com
Triton's Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/TritonComfortDog>
Triton's Instagram page: <https://www.instagram.com/lcck9triton/>



COMFORT DOG MINISTRY NOVEMBER 2022

It's the time of the year when our thoughts are centered on preparing for the holidays that inspire family gatherings and to the many occasions and activities associated with Reformation, Thanksgiving, and the Advent season. The Comfort Dog ministry is equally involved in all sorts of activities as we answer the call to share God's love and compassion with those in our circle of influence.

LCC K9 COMFORT DOG MINISTRY SOUTHWEST REGION GATHERING



LCC K9 Comfort Dog -Southwest Region Gathering 2022

Phoebe Pax Joy Elijah Damaris Triton Gabriel Martha Abner Miriam

On October 14-16, a total of 10 out of 12 of the teams that comprise the LCC K9 Comfort Dog Ministry Southwest region gathered here at Messiah for training, fellowship, and encouragement. These gatherings are necessary to undergird our teams and keep our skills sharpened. Most times, we only see these other teams during deployments which are usually solemn and require dedication and focus on those we are ministering to. These events allow us to get to know each other better, share experiences, and create happy memories. Marti Matz was the overall coordinator of this wonderful weekend and everyone on our team did their part to make it a success. Along with training we worshipped together on Saturday with the help of Pastor Lee and Dorothy Sherrod, were inspired by guest speaker DeAndrea Dare, worshipped together again on Sunday with a Meet and Greet with all the dogs afterwards. A service project was also organized to support the firefighters and their families at Fire Station #5 in Plano.



Chapel time on Saturday morning.



Guest speaker DeAndrea Dare



Food aversion training



Training session



Fire station #5 Service Project



Trivia challenge



COMFORT DOG MINISTRY

OCTOBER 2022

Fall is here and Triton and his team have a full schedule of bringing the joy of Jesus to those we meet! Even with a busy calendar, we are still always on the look out for new ways we can serve others, so if you have an idea or suggestion, please reach out to Carolyn Nussman our Top Dog, or to any of our team members.

TRITON IS SPREADING LOVE AND COMFORT EVERYWHERE...



At Prince of Peace School



Greeting shoppers at the mall



Special Birthday appearance



In our church parking lot

SUPPORTING UVALDE-Team Triton returned to Uvalde in September along with other Comfort Dogs from ours and other states to show support and bring comfort and encouragement to the community as the students began a new school year.



SEEKING MINISTRY PARTNERS



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Please contact Carolyn Nussman at:
(214) 773-3200

[MessiahK9Comfort@gmail.com](mailto: MessiahK9Comfort@gmail.com)



COMING UP:

October 14-15-LCC K9 Comfort Dog Ministry Southwest Region Gathering here at Messiah.

Sunday, October 30-Trunk or Treat-Join Triton and his team in the church parking lot for fun and fellowship.

For more information about the Comfort Dog Ministry, contact our "Top Dog"
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Triton Comfort Dog
Messiah Lutheran - Plano, TX

As Summer is coming to an end, Team Triton is looking forward to adding visits to several schools again. Not to mention, we are ready for some cooler weather too! We are excited to be hosting our Southwest Regional Gathering and Training in October. This was originally scheduled for this month, but changed to October so we can deploy back to Uvalde to comfort the students returning to school. We give thanks to God for all of the opportunities he continues to open up for us!



Brookdale Senior Living



Summer Camp at Messiah



Lifecare Hospital



Comfort for family in grief



Home visit

SEEKING MINISTRY PARTNERS

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COMING UP:

CONTINUED SUPPORT FOR UVALDE-Team Triton will return to Uvalde this month to show support and bring comfort and encouragement to the community as the students begin a new school year. The tragedy is still fresh in the minds of the residents of this tight knit community and it will be a wonderful way to share the light of Christ. We will send 2 different teams the week of September 5th and the week of September 19th. Please continue to keep our team and other teams in your prayers as well as those who continue to mourn the loss of their loved ones.

October 14-15-LCC K9 Comfort Dog Ministry Southwest Region Gathering here at Messiah.

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COMFORT DOG MINISTRY AUGUST 2022

THE SUMMER IS BUSY, BUSY, BUSY-While it's vacation time for most, Team Triton keeps on working because comfort is needed all year round! Following the Uvalde deployment in May, Triton got back to work making his regular monthly visits to Phoenix House, Appletree Court, Arbor Hills, Life Care, etc. He also made a few special appearances and the big event was the National Youth Gathering in Houston. To see more of the many adventures of Triton and his team, visit his Social media pages (see information below).

August is also Triton's anniversary month. We welcomed him to Messiah on August 26, 2018 in a special ceremony. Time flies when you are serving the Lord! We are also getting ready to host our Southwest Region training in September and of course always ready for whatever opportunities the Lord opens up for us!

2022 Gloria Shields
NSPA Media
Workshop



*Anniversary
Celebration*

**We just want to
celebrate another
year of serving!**

On August 26, 2018, Triton officially became an LCC K-9 Comfort Dog. We will not have a meet and greet this year, but want to take the time to thank Messiah Lutheran Church for your wonderful support and praise God for the privilege to Share His Light!



Brookdale Memory Care



Life Care Rehab



Appletree Court



2022 VBS @ Messiah



Vickery Meadows School



National Youth Gathering in Houston



The Phoenix House is a facility that treats young people between the ages of 13-18 for drug and alcohol addiction. The visits we make twice a month involve meeting with small groups of clients that almost always leave us with a happy heart knowing that bringing Triton for them to love on gives them something to look forward to and brings calm and comfort. We are only there for 1 hour, but after the visits we try to ask the groups if we can pray with them, and they always emphatically answer yes! On one of our visits following the Uvalde deployment, we expressed our apologies that we had to cancel our visit since Triton and his team were sent to that community. We shared that we may have to cancel another appointment the following week as he may be going back to Uvalde. One of the young ladies stated that it was okay and that we should go there and help those people instead of coming to see them because they needed it more. That really touched my heart! That young lady may be struggling with addiction, but her thoughts were focused on others in need. It's moments like that when I feel so blessed to be a part of this ministry. I praise God for all that He does through the Comfort Dog ministry! *Kathy Mardis*



Triton is always all smiles
at Phoenix House



The Adult leaders
need comfort too!

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