

THE DESERT STREAM



—Isaiah 35.6

June, 2024

Redeemer Lutheran Church

redeemerscottsdale.org
7670 E. Jomax Road
Scottsdale, AZ 85262
Tel.: 480-585-7002

Sunday Worship... 9a

Sunday School... 10:30

Holy Communion

June 2, 16, 30

Virtual Bible Study

Thursdays, 7 PM, Skype
(No Class on 6/20)

Leadership Meeting

Tuesday, June 11th at
Muths

Ladies' Guild

Next Meeting on or
around August 18th.
All Ladies are Welcome!

This month's newsletter
is in loving memory of
Dortha Benson Pasley,
a Christian lady, my
friend and lifesaver, and
our beloved boss at
Lake of the Woods.

Also available to you

- **Private Confession**
- **Christianity 101**
- **Jr. Confirmation**

**The Congregation
Prays: A Guide to
Daily Devotions
In Sunday's Bulletin!**

Drown-Proofing

Every year about this time, I get a little homesick for the Lake back home. I spent many summers there guarding the beach. The lifeguard stand faced west—we spent our afternoons with the glare of the sun coming at us off the water. Strong sunscreen, dark sunglasses, and a good hat were all a very great help.

Beyond that, everything depended on good teaching. I can still hear the boss, teacher, and head lifeguard who trained me giving words I should never forget: How to perform certain strokes (“pull and breathe, kick and glide;”) but above all how to approach a rescue. *Reach. Throw. Row. Tow. Go.*

We were young. We were fearless—sometimes. We were foolish. Our teacher was teaching us to respect the water. She was teaching us how vulnerable we were. What she called a skin-to-skin rescue was only the very last resort—only after you try to reach someone with an oar; after you throw them something that floats; or try to get to them in a boat; always put something between you and them if you can.

For *your own life is worth saving*. For years at Decatur Beach, parents were encouraged to drown-proof their kids—taking them for lessons on how to swim, teaching them to avoid risks,

even teaching some of us to keep watch over the others. I can't help but find a connection to God's Word:

For my iniquities have gone over my head; like a heavy burden, they are too heavy for me. (Psalm 38:4.)
That you live; that you now believe; that you have eternal life in store for you—that is all due to God's Word alone. It is His gift to you through faith. In the deep beckoning waters of worldly pleasure and summer fun—watch out against unnecessary risk to your faith and your good conscience. The world is dangerous. Sin is dangerous. We ourselves are vulnerable.

Don't be a hero. You already have One. Your rescue cost Him His life—blood poured out unto death on the cross. He decided: *Your life is worth saving*. His call to come and find rest and rescue extends to you—even in the downtimes. ***Make haste to help me, O Lord, my salvation!*** (Psalm 38:22.)

It's my privilege to keep watch. Please pray for my eyes. Please pray for the watch, and for any lives that can yet be saved. If a name comes to mind, please share it with me!

God bless you—be Safe!
See you Sunday!

With Love in Christ, Pastor

The Christian Crash Course

A Community-Based Study
on The Bible—Story by Story,
Subject by Subject
Come as you are!

Course Materials,
Refreshments and Babysitting
Provided

**Ongoing Sundays
This Summer**