

# THE DESERT STREAM



—Isaiah 35.6

July, 2025

## Redeemer Lutheran Church

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

Sunday Worship... 9a

Sunday School... 10:30

Online Bible Study:

+ Proverbs +

**NEW DAY & TIME!**

Th, 6PM —MS Teams.

**Moms in Prayer**

*On hiatus till December*

**Ladies' Guild**

*On hiatus for Summer*

**Congregational Forum**

Sunday, July 13th,  
10:30 AM at Redeemer

**Voters Assembly**

Monday, July 14th, at  
6:30 PM at Redeemer

**Book Club: The  
Flames of Rome – at  
Erika's, Monday, the  
eleventh of August.**

Please Contact Pastor—

- Private Confession
- Christianity 101
- Jr. Confirmation

The Congregation  
Prays:  
A Devotional Guide  
In Sunday's Bulletin!

## *A Wild Hair on a Hot Afternoon*

I pulled into our household driveway on a recent afternoon and noticed the massive flowering bush in the middle of the front yard. It was huge and starting to look out of control—threatening to take over the tree growing in the midst of it, and the little cacti growing around it.

I had noticed this before—but other things got in the way. Today, I thought, I was going to do something about it. I found the hedge trimmer and the extension cord and got a big cup of water to stay hydrated. I set to work. Perhaps Providence provided a little warning for me when I accidentally cut through the power cord with the hedge trimmer. Undaunted, I bought another from the Home Depot and soldiered on, happily sending boughs flying and kicking up dust, sawing through the tiny hose for the water line at least a time or two...

Only afterward did it dawn on me (actually someone else pointed out) the danger: *I hope that the hedge survives.* That's when I finally said to myself:

Maybe you shouldn't cut it back that much. Maybe you shouldn't cut it back that much RIGHT NOW—when the heat is so severe. Maybe there's an art to this, and maybe it's worth the effort to learn it so that you don't finally kill everything that's still growing in your Arizona front yard. This wasn't the best time to cut that back.

I guess I'm learning this as a spiritual lesson, too: misplaced zeal can be just as damaging as apathy and neglect.

This calls for prayer, and guidance from our Lord. This calls for wisdom and watchfulness, and an open ear.

Let's pray for our yard, so to speak. Let's pray for wisdom, and compassion for those who maybe suffer in the heat. Let's ask the Lord to help us to know when and how to invite and to encourage, without causing any harm. Let's ask the Lord to deliver us from our worldliness and carelessness, since our Lord has taught us using plants and a coming harvest to know our times:

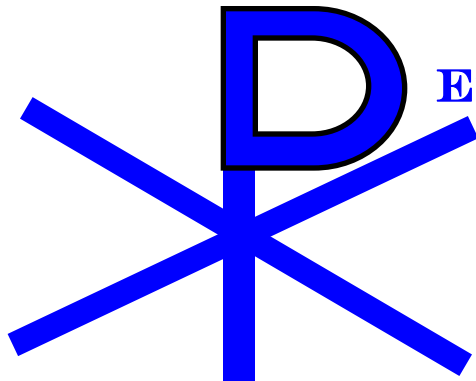
**Do you not say, 'There are yet four months, then comes the harvest'? Look, I tell you, lift up your eyes, and see that the fields are white for harvest.<sup>36</sup> Already the one who reaps is receiving wages and gathering fruit for eternal life, so that sower and reaper may rejoice together. (John 4:35-36 ESV)**

God grant you *the Joy* of hearing His voice in the forgiveness of all your sins—misplaced zeal, neglect, and all of them! God grant you *the Joy*, also, of seeing the fruits of the same mercy being gathered in for eternal life.

God Bless you—See you Sunday!  
With Love in Christ,  
Pastor Hamilton

Please Pray for  
Our Sister Congregation,  
Hope Lutheran, Leander, Texas  
And Pastor Jerry Gernander!

Midsummer with Matthew—  
Devotionals for the Summer with  
Pastors from around our Synod,  
on our church facebook page



## DESERT STREAM CLASSIFIEDS

July, 2025

*In response to various requests from some of our membership to stay informed about meetings, plans and projects, this back page of our newsletter is provided. Please let Pastor know if there is more that we can do to keep everyone in touch and informed!*

**Redeemer**  
**Lutheran Church**  
*redeemerscottsdale.org*

*Find Us*

*On YouTube*

*and Facebook:*

**Redeemer Lutheran  
Church of Scottsdale**

*Please Promote our  
Worship Services and  
any Online Content*

*Please Like & Share!*

**Thank you to each of  
the Officers and the  
Elders who have  
served our congrega-  
tion so faithfully in  
this last term!**

**Thank you Norm,  
Bryan, Bill, & Jim!**

**Learn More about  
our Evangelical Lu-  
theran Synod and  
Bethany Lutheran  
College through the  
synod website**

**www.els.org**

**Please Consider  
Volunteering  
for our Shared  
Work!**

**Look Here**

- **Elders and Council met on June 23rd** for a Pizza Supper, for prayer, and organizing. The meeting was well attended. We discussed potential candidates for election to office at the next Voter's assembly. A congregational **Forum is set for Sunday, July 13th**, after the Service, and a **Voters Assembly is set for Monday, July 14th at 6:30 PM at Redeemer**. Thank you to everyone for their attendance, their discussion and input, and willingness to serve!
- **Midweek Bible Class** continues on a New Day and Time: **Thursday Evenings at 6PM**. We now meet on Microsoft Teams. Please join us as we study the **book of Proverbs** this month.

\*\*\*The Link for Thursday Bible Class (to paste into your browser) is:

<https://teams.live.com/meet/9367419412339?p=3VieYxdvLBuNh2dpyl>

- This month, our **Book Club** will be reading the book: **The Flames of Rome** by **Paul L. Maier**. Next month, we'll meet at **Erika Schmeissing's home**, on **Monday, August 11th at 6 PM** to discuss it. The book is available for purchase on Amazon.com and available on loan from the church library. Please RSVP to Erika: 480.773.5330.
- **Ladies' Guild** is on hiatus for the summer. Thank you to all our ladies for your ongoing efforts to meet the needs of our congregation!
- The **Christian Crash Course**: The Bible, Explained for anybody, Subject by Subject, for you and your loved ones. Call or Text 715.497.0089
- **New Resources**: an updated congregational brochure, a shoppers guide to churches, and business cards are available in the Narthex.
- Each Week, our congregation depends on staff and volunteers who care for the **Altar**, serve as **Ushers**, work in the **Kitchen**, **Proof-read** and **Print** bulletins, **Play music** for the services, **Record** worship, **upload** services, and generate a presence for our congregation on **social media**.
- Each Month, your efforts help set the **calendar**, provide **proof-reading** for publications, and more.

*Thank you to everyone who does these things! If you would like to be involved, or perhaps help organize these volunteer efforts, please talk to Pastor, Norm, Carole, or a Ladies' Guild member. God bless you!*