THE DESERT STREAM



—**Isaiah 35.6**

November, 2025

<u>Redeemer</u> Lutheran Church

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

Sunday Worship... 9a Sunday School...10:30a

Kids: **Old Testament** Adults: **St. Matthew**

Midweek Bible Study:

+ 1 Peter +

Thurs, Nov. 20, 6 PM At Redeemer & Teams (Weekly Classes will Resume in December)

Elders & Council: Monday, November 3, 6:30 PM at the Church.

Ladies' Guild Meets Sunday, November 16, after Church.

Book Club— We are looking at Gene Veith's book <u>The Spirituality of the Cross.</u> Our next meeting is planned for sometime early Dec.

Please Contact Pastor—

- Private Confession
- Christianity 101
- Jr. Confirmation

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

Hot Chips and a Squirrel

What happens to a squirrel when he eats ©Flaming Hot Cheetos? It never occurred to me to ask. But apparently this is a new pastime for people with door cams. Leave out an open spicy snack bag, and a glass of milk, and see what happens.

I laugh deliriously. Then my conscience kicks in: Poor little guy. I take comfort that he feels better after he jumps *into* the milk glass to find relief from all the Scoble units he unwittingly encountered in pursuit of an afternoon treat.

Then it's on to the next thing.

Someone is caught two-timing. Another "Karen" gets what is coming to her. A high-speed chase plows through the city.

If it's not "doomscrolling," then perhaps it's Netflix which will roll from one episode to the next with no end in sight. There is no limit to the content... and no limit to the time we might spend on it, at times when it sucks us in.

God is the One who imposes limits. The limits He sets are good. He sets limits for the day and night; for the seasons and for the years. He sets limits for evil, and how far He will endure it. He sets limits for the age and tells us to watch and pray, for the end of all things is fast approaching.

We don't see it. Maybe in our not seeing it, we don't think about it. Maybe in our not seeing, we scarcely believe it. Maybe we don't believe at all, but instead live as functional agnostics in a world full of endless choices, virtually limitless options, and constant distractions.

The end of all things is at hand; therefore be self-controlled and sober-minded for the sake of your prayers. (1 Peter 4:7)

Somewhere (if not here) leaves are turning colors. The air is blowing colder to mark the certainty of changing seasons. The Church in her wisdom has watched and listened. She has given us the gift she learns from her Lord: to mark these seasons, and to observe a time to remember the end.

We don't live forever. All our lordly options and choices do not make us immortal, nor do our wealth and possessions guarantee us blessedness in the Day of Judgment. In fact, what we have deserved and earned for ourselves was unexpectedly Flaming Hot. And there was no next thing.

To some extent or another we feel the heat, so to speak, when our consciences accuse us; when the fear of impending death and Judgment sneak up on us. One squirrel in particular comes to mind—he ate the hot stuff, screamed, and ran desperately away, without ever tasting the milk!

Your conscience finds relief and peace when Christ is proclaimed to you in the Last Days. Your future is guaranteed by Jesus who took the punishment for you, from the trap that closed on us at the first human sin. Jesus has taken all your sins away. He sets before you the promise that guarantees eternal blessedness. Like newborn infants, long for the pure spiritual milk, that by it you may grow up into salvation-- if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good. (1 Peter 2:2-3)

God grant it, I'll see you Sunday! Pastor Hamilton

- Men's & Women's Church Work Day
 Saturday, November 22, 9AM Lunch Provided!
- Thanksgiving Eve Service Wednesday, Nov. 26, 4PM
- Decorations for Christmas! On Sunday, Nov. 30



ESERT STREAM CLASSIFIEDS

November, 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 Online Content

Thank you to all our **Volunteers: Altar** Guild, Music, Ladies Guild, Kitchen, **Properties—And Now Volunteers for** our Sunday School!

Please Pray for our Sunday School, for our children, for our families, and for our faculty and staff!

> Thank You Everyone!

Come to Church! Come to Bible Study! Bring a Friend!

Our Forum met on Sunday, October 5th at the Bible Class Hour in advance of the Voters meeting on October 6th at 6:30 PM at the **Church.** What follows is an abbreviated, unofficial record of minutes for that meeting:

Reports were presented. Actions were taken: Low voltage exterior lighting was authorized, an offering for a fund for a new outdoor sign was authorized, occasional work days for cooler months were planned.

The first work day was a big church family event in October. People worked inside and out, had a pizza lunch, and 1000 lbs of trimmings and weeds was hauled away. Thank you everyone for your efforts!

Midweek Bible Class continues on Thursday Evenings at 6PM, in person at Redeemer and on Microsoft Teams. Only One Thursday Bible Study is planned for November because of other events: We will meet on Thursday, November 20th. Our Midweek Bible Class will resume meeting each week in December after the Thanksgiving holiday, and continue until Christmas week. Please join us as we continue to study the book of 1 Peter. Your Link to join the class online:

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

- Thank you to Erika Schmeissing for hosting the Book Club for us in recent months. We plan to meet at another location sometime in December to discuss a book we would like to give as a gift to our friends and guests. The book is Gene Veith's The Spirituality of the Cross. The Book Club is for men and women, members of the church as well as family, friends and neighbors. The book is available from Amazon.
- Ladies' Guild is scheduled to meet on Sunday, November 16th at Church. Thank you to all of you for all your volunteer efforts! Regular reports are given in the meetings:

Treasury, Alpha Pregnancy Center, Fellowship, Hospitality, Altar Guild, Sunday morning Fellowship.

We currently have Judy, Marilyn, Vicki, and Erika doing communion preparation. Sue Muth continues to make coffee for us. Vicki Richards and Susan McIver are taking care of the kitchen. Carole and Heather are our Sunday School teachers. We rely on volunteers for puppets. Thank you!