

# THE DESERT STREAM



—Isaiah 35.6

June, 2026

## Redeemer Lutheran Church

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

Sunday Worship... 9a

Sunday School...10:30a

Kids: **Bible History**

+ Adults: **Hebrews +**

Wednesday Bible

Class..... 5p

+ **Bible Study Skills +**

At Redeemer & Teams

(No Class Jun 17, 24)

Church Council & Elders —No June meeting

Forum & Voters —No June meeting

Next Congregational Meetings set for July

Ladies' Guild—

Sunday, May 10 after worship at the Church.

Please Contact Pastor—

• Private Confession

• Christianity 101

• Jr. Confirmation

The Congregation Prays:

A Devotional Guide In Sunday's Bulletin!

## *You Can't Fight City Hall*

Thank you to everyone whose thoughtful donations have funded a new sign for our church building! It's been exciting and encouraging.

Now, though, it looks like it's become a waiting game yet again, as the city decides what we can and can't do. How big a sign we can and can't have. How close to the road we can put it. What desert vegetation we have to leave alone, and finally whether our site plan gets approved, after all the hoops we're expected to leap through.

Sometimes it's hard to know what the people in power are thinking. Sometimes it seems like it should be easier. It feels like all the rules and regulations are so unnecessary, and maybe even high-handed. It's frustrating. It's mildly irritating.

As I thought about these things, all of a sudden a very humbling and sobering thought occurred to me. *It's not the first time God's people have had their hands tied.*

When I think of all that God's people have willingly and even cheerfully endured for the sake of the Gospel—the seizure of their homes, the confiscation of property, unjust imprisonment, and even torture and execution—how can I possibly complain? What's more, *how did they do it?* But only by faith, with the Lord in their minds and hearts.

St. Paul wrote to Timothy from prison, 2 Tim. 2.8-9: **Remember Jesus Christ, risen from the dead, the offspring of David, as preached in my gospel, for which I am suffering, bound with chains as a criminal.**

How He endured! How He overcame! And how faithful He is even now, keeping watch over His Word to His glory and for our help! After Paul mentions his own imprisonment, He says this: **But the word of God is not bound!**

Not restricted. Not held fast. Not even when we are, however our hands might be tied. Jesus, who patiently endured the cross and all its shame, did so to take away our sins, including our hard feelings and bitterness, to set us free by the gospel to serve Him with joy and free offerings of praise and thanksgiving.

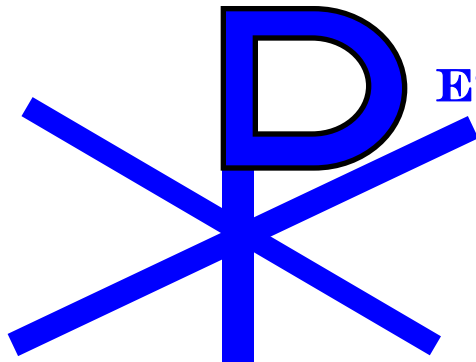
So St. Paul wrote to the Corinthians, knowing that the Gospel will accomplish the purpose God has for it, whether or not we have backlit signage; whether or not it's digital, or with the little movable letters. He wrote knowing that the Gospel takes up residence for you and for the world in you who believe, 2 Cor 3.2: **You yourselves are our letter of recommendation, written on our hearts, to be known and read by all.**

Lift up your hearts!

God Bless You, See You Sunday!

**Book Club meets again  
On June 16th, 6PM at Redeemer  
Book: *Seeking Allah, Finding Jesus*  
By Nabeel Quereshi**

**Please Pray for the  
ELS in Convention  
The week of June 21st !**



## DESERT STREAM CLASSIFIEDS

June, 2026

*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*

*Facebook*

*And Now - Instagram:*

**Redeemer Lutheran  
Church of Scottsdale**

*Please Promote our  
Worship Services and  
Online Content*

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

**Please Pray for all  
these efforts!**

**Thank You to  
All!**

A special **Thank You**  
to all of the **Ladies of  
Redeemer** for your  
volunteer efforts!

***Come to Church!***

***Come to Bible Study!***

***Bring a Friend!***

***Watch Bulletins for  
More Info on the  
Spring Festival***

**Forum met on Sunday May 3rd, and our Voters met on Monday, May 4th at 5 PM.** Unofficial minutes for the Voter's Assembly: President Mike McIver called the meeting to order. Pastor opened with devotion on Psalm 51. Roll call. A motion was made and passed to approve the previous meeting minutes. M/S/P.

**Pastor's Report:** The average weekend attendance for April was 42. The average communion attendance: 31. Special services for Maundy Thursday and Good Friday: 27 and 36 attendees respectively. James Wade will play the organ on May 24th.

**Motion to accept new members:** Gerhardus and Shelley Combrink and their children. Troy and Margaret McKinley family. Dennis Schmitz. M/S/P.

A discussion was held about rescheduling or skipping the June 1st elders' council meeting. It was decided to wait until closer to the date to see if a meeting is necessary. Troy was nominated and approved as a new voting member, and subsequently appointed as the interim financial secretary. A need was identified to increase the number of ushers. The goal is to reinstate the practice of ushering people up for communion to improve the flow.

**Property Projects Update:** Low Voltage Lights: The installation is 95% complete. The lights are on a timer, activating at sunset and turning off at 10 PM. Five lights are pending the digging of a trench for the new sign. Church Sign: A Teams call with the council is scheduled for May 14th at 2:30 PM to discuss the sign. The proposed digital sign design was rejected by the city of Scottsdale for being too large. Workday: The last workday was in March. The next one will be scheduled after the summer for weeding and trimming. Maintenance: A leak previously noticed on a urinal was not observed this week.

**Sanctuary Thermostat:** A discussion was held regarding the sanctuary temperature. It is usually set to 76 degrees. A thermostat in a storage room hallway might have a dead battery; Mike McIver will check it. Fire Alarm System: The current fire alarm system passed its recent audit but will need replacement within the next ten months, as it is unlikely to pass again. The replacement will require wired smoke detectors and is estimated to cost \$40,000 to \$50,000. Installation complexity and project management were noted as concerns. Indoor/Outdoor Maintenance: An upcoming work day will address projects like installing a new GFCI outlet, timers for patio lights, and new faceplates. The failing lights in the meeting room need to be replaced, with a preference for LED tubes. Roof Cross Repair: A special project to repair the cross on the roof was discussed. A member has offered to cover material costs.

A motion was passed to hire Stephanie Wentzlaff (business names: "Web City Services," "Ecclesiastical Creations") for website and social media management for approximately \$900 per year. Her services will include website updates, sermon uploads, and social media posting. The pastor's wife, Heather, and Troy will be her primary contacts. Digital Calendar: A motion was passed to purchase a large format, wall-hung, touchscreen electronic calendar for the meeting room with a budget of approximately \$500. The calendar will sync with the church's Gmail and website. The plan is to use a Gmail-based electronic calendar that integrates with the website and social media to improve the church's digital presence.

**Evangelism:** A sign-up sheet for "cookie bombers" is available. The phrase "Chocolate chip cookie evangelism" was noted. Funding for the website management and digital calendar may come from the evangelism budget. The meeting adjourned 7:30 PM.

Midweek Bible Class continues on Wednesdays at 5PM, at Redeemer and on MS Teams. Please join us for Bible Study Skills. **Your Link to join online:**  
<https://teams.live.com/join/9367419412339?p=3VieYxdvLBUh2dpyl>