

HIGHLIGHTS & HAPPENINGS



October 2025

Find Your Passion Ministry Fair

*Sunday, October 19th
before & after each service
join us on the patio*

Loving **God** Serving **His World** Changing **Lives**

925 N Sarival Ave. Goodyear AZ 85338

Facebook **Instagram** and **YouTube**

Pastor's Pen

Dear CPC Family,

I am so grateful for this church.

Not just theoretically or generally, but specifically. I thank God for each of you that make up this community we call Christ Presbyterian Church. I am thankful that I get to be a part of this spiritual family that Christ has brought together.

I am grateful for CPC ... even knowing that we need to continue to grow in our service and love and outreach ... even knowing that we aren't yet fully the church that Jesus is calling us to be.

I am thankful that we are on this journey of faith and faithfulness together.

Gratitude isn't something we should feel only when things are perfect. We should express it especially in times when things aren't exactly the way we want - which is most of the time.

"Always give thanks to God the Father for everything, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ." Ephesians 5:20

I am grateful for my home, even though I know I'll have to replace our 18-year-old air conditioner before too much longer. I'm thankful for my wife, even when we are having a difference of opinion. I am grateful for my health, even though my knee and shoulder have been hurting. I am thankful for the Thrive home-school group using our facility even though one of the kids made a big hole in our stairway wall last week!

You see, I can choose to complain, or I can choose to thank. Unfortunately, it is often more natural to complain - to find the problems. But if I choose to be grateful, my life is so much better even when the circumstances are the same.

"Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus."

1 Thessalonians 5:18

God's will for us is to give thanks because God's will for us is good and perfect. A life of gratitude is worth living - and brings blessing to those around us. A life of negativity is a lot harder to get through, and dampens out the joy that we might otherwise feel and pass on to others.

As followers of Jesus, we aren't grateful just because it will make us feel better. It is meant to be the foundation of our lives as we remember that God is in every part of life and at work for our good.

"Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good. His love endures forever." Psalm 118:1

I am most grateful for the life and love I have received as a free gift from God. The more I pay attention, the more I see to be grateful for. It teaches me not to take things for granted.

Let's not wait for November 27, let's make every day Thanksgiving Day!

Your Eternally Optimistic,

Pastor Jerry

A Note From Session

Submitted by *Elder Shirley Lambert*

Change. That is a word that brings out mixed emotions in most of us – anxiety, excitement, confusion. Regardless of our reaction, change is a real part of our world. It is also a real part of God's church. To paraphrase author Sue Mallory, the body of Christ is a living organism, made up of living parts that are constantly changing in the amazing living miracle called the church.

Session members have been looking at the changes around us at CPC – good changes such as growing numbers of youth and covenant partners, and the blessings of pastors and staff committed to enhancing discipleship and service in our church. But some changes can be very challenging. How do we interact with a constantly changing secular world? Should we be interacting with it? How do we intentionally reach out to that world?

Our mission statement, developed last year (loving God, serving his world, changing lives), was the first step toward accepting the challenge of change. This summer, Session has been working on the next step – a vision statement that aligns our ministries and resources with that mission. We have been prayerfully trying to discern God's vision for our future, remembering that all of God's gifts to us are meant for God's glory and to be a blessing to others.

Pastor Jerry will soon be introducing the new vision statement for CPC. Will you accept the challenge that it extends to all of us to build the body of Christ here at CPC and in the world around us?

Missions

It is that time of year again. CPC will be participating in **Operation Christmas Child**. Boxes will be available beginning October 12th and should be returned by November 9th. You can also pack a box online for \$30.00.

These boxes go to undisclosed locations. If you would like to know where your box is sent to, you can pay the \$10 shipping fee online and track your box. If not paying online, please make your check payable to CPC for \$10.00 and put OCC in the memo line. Checks for OCC should be put in the offering baskets and not inside your box! Help us reach our goal of 200 shoe boxes. [Build A Shoebox Online](#)

Please Do Not Include

Soap; Candy; toothpaste; gum; used or damaged items; scary or war-related items such as toy guns, knives, or military figures; chocolate or food; seeds; fruit rolls or other fruit snacks; drink mixes (powdered or liquid); liquids or lotions; medications or vitamins; breakable items such as snow globes or glass containers; aerosol cans.

Thanksgiving Community Outreach Program

Come help us hand out Thanksgiving food boxes on Saturday November 22nd volunteers needed from 7am to 10:30am at Skyway Church (14900 W Van Buren St Goodyear). If you are interested in helping make the Thanksgiving boxes, please reach out to Pam Bakker for the specific times. (pambakker@ymail.com or 602-689-1122)

Connect Groups

Find Your People – Join a Connect Group!

Life can be hard, but doing life with others makes it a little easier. That's what Connect Groups are all about—gathering with others to share life, grow in faith, and encourage one another.

Our new season of Connect Groups kicks off the last week of October! Whether you've been at CPC for years or are just getting connected, this is the perfect opportunity to build lasting relationships and strengthen your walk with God.

👉 Look for more details coming soon! You can sign up by filling out a Connect Card on Sundays or visiting the Connect Group table at the Ministry Fair.

Have questions? Contact Pastor Mike at pastormike@cpcgoodyear.org

Adult Formation

Pastor Mike leads a Bible Study for Adults each Wednesday at 10:00 a.m. in Room 202 in the Education Wing. Our current focus is the book of Genesis. All our welcome to attend. Study notes are available for each lesson. Please contact Pastor Mike (309-712-6481) or the church office for more information.

Prayer

Prayer is one of, if not the, most important thing that we do as Jesus-followers. Send your prayer request or request to receive prayer chain emails to prayers@cpcgoodyear.org

Men of IAM

Men of IAM will not be meeting in October since CPC will be hosting a Presbytery meeting at our usual time.

Plan to join us the second Saturday in November.

The Men of IAM have received our shipment of the Our Daily Bread devotional for the Oct-Dec quarter. Copies are in various locations around the church. Help yourself!

Women of the Word

Wow will not be meeting in October since CPC will be hosting a Presbytery meeting at our usual time.

Plan to join us the second Saturday in November.



**CELEBRATE
RECOVERY®**

Beginning Friday October 10
6:30 PM in Room 207

For more information please email
pastormike@cpcgoodyear.org

**Men's Bible Study
Women's Bible Study
No Meeting in OCTOBER**



Choir

Join Our Christmas Choir and Make the Season Bright!

The holiday season is just around the corner, and what better way to celebrate than by joining your voice with others to spread joy through song? We are excited to invite you to become a member of our special Christmas choir. Whether you're a seasoned vocalist or simply love to sing in the car, your voice is a welcome addition!

Why join the Christmas choir?

Boost your holiday spirit: Singing has been scientifically proven to boost your mood and reduce stress, and sharing music with others is a powerful way to get into the festive mood.

Build new connections: Joining a choir is a fantastic way to connect with others in the community, forge friendships, and build social bonds in a fun, creative environment.

Contribute to a meaningful tradition:

For many, the familiar melodies of Christmas carols evoke feelings of nostalgia and peace. Your participation will help carry on this timeless tradition, creating cherished memories for both performers and audience members.

No long-term commitment required:

This special Christmas choir is designed for the holiday season only, making it the perfect opportunity to participate without committing to the entire year. Rehearsal and performance schedule Information: Stop by our table at the Ministry Fair on Sunday, October 19th for more information.

Retreat: Join us on Saturday, October 25th from 11-2pm to kick-off our Christmas concert music. We will also have a potluck lunch and fellowship!

Weekly rehearsals: Rehearsals will be held on Wednesday evenings from 6:30-7:15, you are welcome to stay from 7:15-8:00pm while we practice our Sunday anthems, as well. You are welcome to sing on Sundays, but not required.

Save the Dates for the Holidays

Performances:

Christmas Choral Program: 12.14

Christmas Eve Service: 12.24

How to get involved:

If you are interested in joining, please sign up at the ministry fair and the director will contact you. You can also write Christmas Choir on your connect card. Or, contact the director, Shanna Steinback at choir_director@cpcgoodyear.org. We look forward to creating beautiful music together this holiday season!

Shanna Steinback

Arctic Kids Ministry

September Recap – Ruth’s Journey

In September, we learned from Ruth’s incredible story of loyalty and trust in God. Through her journey, kids discovered that God is faithful and always working for good, even in difficult times. Thank you, families, for helping reinforce these truths at home—your kids are growing in God’s Word and it shows!

October Rotation – The Patience of Job

We are gearing up for a brand-new adventure in October as we explore the story of Job. Even when Job lost everything, he stayed faithful to God, showing us what true patience looks like in hard times. Kids will experience this lesson through science, games, snacks, and Bible teaching in our rotation rooms.

Yearly Memory Verse:

“Let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.” —Matthew 5:16 (NIV)

October Focus Verse

Elementary:

“The Lord gives, and the Lord takes away; may the Lord’s name be praised.” —Job 1:21 (NIV, shortened)

PreK–K:

“I will always praise the Lord.” —based on Job 1:21

We Need You! – Serve with Arctic Kids

Yes, YOU can make a difference! We are looking for teachers and leaders in our elementary rooms. Commitment is just 3 weeks at a time—you can give 1 week, 2 weeks, or all 3, whatever fits your schedule. Training and lessons are provided. It’s a fun, rewarding way to invest in the next generation.

Big News – Fall into Community 🍂

Yes, the rumors are true—we will not be holding Trunk or Treat this year. But don’t worry—we’re launching something NEW! This November, Arctic Kids will host a churchwide event:

Fall into Community – A Family Festival

 Sunday, November 2

 2:00–4:30 PM

 CPC Goodyear

This will be a night of fun, food, games, and fellowship for our whole church and community. Save the date and bring your friends and neighbors—we can’t wait to celebrate together.

In His Shadow,

Shawna Farrish

**Teachers are off the first
Sunday of the month
1 Month commitment
2 Adults per room**

**Toddlers (2 & 3 yr olds), PreK – 1 Grade
2 & 3 Grade, 4 & 5 Grade**

**Training provided, lessons are given at
least 1 month ahead of time
and all supplies and
classrooms are set up for you!**

Family Worship Sunday!

October 5!

Traditional & Contemporary Services
2nd- 5th Graders — Join your families in worship!

6 Weeks – Pre-K Grade: Drop off in the Education Wing before service starts.



Become a Seasonal Choir member between October & December. With the shorter commitment, For more information, stop by the music table at the ministry fair October 19, speak to our director after service, email choir_director@cpcgoodyear.org.

Fall Discipleship Classes

Starting THIS Tuesday,
October 7, 2025 7PM

Discipleship Class Options
*Transforming Our Thoughts,
Redirecting Our Lives*

Jim McGown

One Another
Pastor Mike Shirey

Arctic Kids

We need *Teachers* to help our Kids grow in *Following God, Helping Others, Spreading Joy.*

Sunday Mornings during 10:30 Service, training provided!

Save the Date October

Friday Oct. 3	Ed Peck Celebration of Life
Tuesday Oct. 7	Discipleship Classes Begin
Saturday Oct. 11	Presbyterian Meeting
Monday Oct. 13	Office Closed
Saturday Oct. 18	Duane Johnson Cel. of Life
Sunday Oct. 19	Ministry Fair
Sunday Oct. 26	Vitaly Serebriakov Concert

Save the Date November

Sunday Nov. 2	CPC 101 Connect
Saturday Nov 8	Men & Women's Bible Study
Saturday Nov. 8	Jackie Waln Cel. of Life
Sunday Nov. 9	Fall Festival
Sunday Nov. 16	CPC 201 Grow

Christ Presbyterian Church Goodyear

Loving God, Serving His World, Changing Lives

Staff

Senior Pastor: Jerry Cooper
jerry@cpcgoodyear.org

Assistant Pastor: Mike Shirey
pastormike@cpcgoodyear.org

Traditional Worship Leader: Shanna Steinback
choir_director@cpcgoodyear.org

Contemporary Worship Leader: Charisma Luat Guese
charisma.luat@gmail.com

Pianist: Vitaly Serebriakov
vserebriakoff@gmail.com

Media Director: Austyn Damon
austyn@cpcgoodyear.org

Assistant Media Director: Kathryn Denny
katymdenny@gamil.com

Administrator & Children's Ministry Director: Shawna Farrish
shawna@cpcgoodyear.org

Youth Ministry Director: Dr. Jayson Black
youth_director@cpcgoodyear.org

Bookeeper & IT Director: John Merrill
johnm@cpcgoodyear.org