

HIGHLIGHTS & HAPPENINGS



August 2025



Loving God Serving His World Changing Lives

925 N Sarival Ave. Goodyear AZ 85338

Facebook Instagram and YouTube

For the Parents

Introducing the New Parent Resource Wall!

We are excited to introduce something brand new designed just for YOU—our amazing parents and caregivers! Located in the foyer of the Education Building, the Parent Resource Wall is your go-to spot for helpful tools, encouragement, and up-to-date information to support you as you raise your kids to know and follow Jesus. So... what will you find on the wall?

Arctic Kids Calendars (2 Months at a Time)

These printed calendars will keep you in the loop on what your child is learning each month. Each one includes:

- Our yearly memory verse
- The monthly Bible story theme
- The monthly memory verse

Featured Parenting Book

Each month, we'll highlight a Christian parenting book that speaks to real-life challenges and joys of raising kids in today's world. Feel free to take it, read it, and pass it along to another parent. Each book includes a CPC Goodyear sticker with service info and details about our Kids & Youth Ministries.

Who We Are Brochures for New Families

These brochures are a quick and friendly way for new families to learn who CPC Goodyear is and how to get connected.

Our hope is that this wall becomes a valuable resource you can return to regularly—whether you're looking for encouragement, practical tools, or just a better understanding of what your kids are learning each week.

Be sure to swing by the Education Building foyer next Sunday and check it out!

With you in the journey,

Arctic Kids Team
Director of Children's Ministry

From Shawna

Changes Coming to Arctic Kids – And a Big Woohoo for What's Next!

Big things are happening in Arctic Kids – and we couldn't be more excited (or maybe just a little teary-eyed)! As our ministry continues to grow, so do the needs of our amazing kids. After lots of prayer and thoughtful conversations, we're stepping into a new season of ministry... and sending off some of our Arctic Kids with a big, prayerful woohoo!

Starting Sunday, August 3, our 6th–8th graders will officially graduate from Arctic Kids and head on up (literally and figuratively!) to the brand-new Middle School Ministry: 678. They'll meet during 2nd service with none other than Dr. Jayson Black and the Rise Youth team, upstairs on the 2nd floor of the Education Building.

While it's a little bittersweet to see them leave the Arctic tundra, we are so excited for what God has in store for them in this next chapter. These students have grown so much—spiritually, emotionally, and let's be honest, most of them are now taller than me—and it's time for them to dive deeper into faith and fellowship in a space designed just for them.

Thank you, parents, for letting us be part of your child's faith journey. It's been a joy to watch your Arctic Kid discover who God is and just how deeply He loves them. And don't worry—we'll still be cheering them on, just from the other side of the hallway.

Let's keep growing, glowing, and going after Jesus—one hallway at a time!

Shawna Farrish
Director of Children's Ministry

From Dr. Black

Dear CPC Church Families,

I am excited to announce that Rise Youth, CPC's youth group, will now be held during 2nd service each Sunday. Our Youth will begin their day in the auditorium at 10:30 with the rest of the church. Following the praise and worship time, youth (grades 6-12), will be dismissed to go with Dr. Black to the second floor of the education building and meet in the Youth room.

When & Where?

Date: Rise Youth each Sunday, beginning August 3, 2025

Time: Second service @ 10:30

Location: Meet in the Auditorium and then gather in the Youth Room following praise music

While the adults gather in the main sanctuary/auditorium, our middle and high school students will have a powerful service designed just for them directly upstairs in the education wing.

What to Expect:

Live worship during second service in the auditorium at 10:30

A relevant message crafted to speak to the hearts and minds of today's youth
Interactive games, small group discussions, and so much more

A welcoming, high-energy space where students can connect with each other and with God.

This Month's Theme:

"Back to School" – Putting on the Armor of God

Ephesians 6:10-18

"11 Put on the full armor of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes."

Who Should Come?

All middle school and high school students are invited to attend Rise Youth during the regularly scheduled second service. Simply show up and bring a friend!

If you have any questions, reach out to Dr. Jayson Black at

youth_director@cpcgoodyear.org

Or

On Instagram:

<https://www.instagram.com/riseyouthcpc/>

Let's continue to grow together in faith, friendship, and purpose. I am excited to see you all this Sunday!

Honoring God,

Dr. Jayson Black
CPC Youth Director

Arctic Kids Ministry

From Mystery Solvers to Mission Movers: Arctic Kids August Update!

What. A. Summer!

Our Arctic Kids wrapped up another incredible season of Summer Sunday Blast—and what a blast it was! From wacky theme days (yes, even the one where we all wore socks with sandals... on purpose) to five mysterious cases cracked wide open, our kids uncovered more than just clues. Each week, we discovered powerful truths hidden in God's Word and tucked the Fruit of the Spirit deep into our hearts (Galatians 5:22–23, in case you're quizzing at home).

We closed out our summer fun with the ultimate splash: our 3rd Annual Water Day! With giant slides, splash pads, and lots of squeals (and maybe a few soggy volunteers), it was the perfect way to celebrate all that God has done through Arctic Kids this summer.

But now... it's time for a new adventure. Literally.

We are so excited to launch our 2025–2026 Sunday School year with this year's theme:

God's Big Adventure — Loving, Serving, and Growing!

This year, we're strapping on our adventure boots (or Crocs... we don't judge) and following God wherever He leads—into classrooms, playgrounds, neighborhoods, and beyond.

Our new Arctic Kids Mission Statement reminds us why we do what we do:

*Following God, Helping Others,
Spreading Joy*

Whether we're sharing, caring, or saying prayers at school lunch, we want our Arctic Kids to be confident explorers of God's love and truth. We've chosen a guiding memory verse to shine throughout the year:

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

Our first Sunday School rotation series starts with the very beginning—The Story of Creation. Each week, kids will explore how God made the world and discover that He made each of us on purpose, for a purpose, in His big adventure.

Don't miss this special moment:

During our Family Worship Service in August, we'll be handing out Backpack Blessing Tags and praying over our amazing students, teachers, school staff, and parents. These tags are a reminder that your child is deeply loved, supported, and lifted up in prayer as they head into the school year.

Make sure your student picks up their tag on the way out of service! Let's dive into God's Big Adventure together—loving, serving, growing, and spreading joy every step of the way.

Let's go, Arctic Kids! ❄️🎒

Missions



Now that summer is here, the mobile food bank distribution in partnership with Saint Mary's Food Bank and All Faith Community Services on the fourth Saturday of each month will begin at 6am. Come help give away food to the Goodyear community. Volunteers are needed anytime between 6am and 9am. (Skyway Church 14900 W Van Buren St Goodyear) Saturday August 23rd

Thank you for all the donations to the food Bank. CPC donated 1250 pounds of food.



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Saturday, August 23rd.



Thank you to those that helped at Feed My Starving Children on July 19th. We were part of a group that helped pack enough food to feed 123 children for one year. Thanks be to God!



Boxes: 209
Meals: 45,144
Cost: \$13,091.76
Kids Fed For a Year: 123

Prayer Corner

WHAT IS PRAYER; DOESN'T GOD ALREADY KNOW WHAT I NEED?

Prayer is communication with God, either in thought or in spoken or written words. Just as our relationships with friends and family grow and deepen as we spend more time together, time interacting with God deepens our relationship with Him.

God at ready loves and accepts us unconditionally, so we never have to fear reaching out to Him in prayer.

Prayer is the key to the depth and health of our relationship with God.

In Luke 11:1, Jesus' followers said, "Lord, teach us to pray..." Jesus responded with a model for them (and us) to follow. That model shows not only the basics of praying, but also the necessity of praying,

Jesus wants us to pray because He wants us to know God intimately. He commanded and modeled prayer repeatedly as He traveled and taught His followers how to communicate with God. Just like the people who followed Jesus while He was living on earth, we can learn from His reliance on prayer. Jesus' followers saw how He needed time alone to talk with God, to rest, to receive direction from God, to find peace after conflict, and to be loved as only God can love us.

In Matthew 7:7, Jesus shared a simple way to remember the basics of prayer: ask, seek, and knock. "Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you,"

Yes, God already knows everything about us, including our needs. But prayer lets us participate in God's blessings and provision for us. As we ask for God's help, seek His guidance, and knock on the doors He provides. God's responses draw us closer and involve us in His powerful work.

God created us with an infinite love, and prayer is His gift of an all-access, never-closed gateway to His heart.

Blessings,

Pastor Bob Shelton

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.

Women of the Word

WOW—It's Not Just an Expression! At CPC Goodyear, WOW stands for Women of the Word—and let us tell you, we live up to the name!

Every Second Saturday at 10AM in the Auditorium, an amazing group of women gathers to dig into God's Word, sip on coffee (because Jesus and java go hand in hand), and enjoy laughter-filled fellowship that's good for the soul.

This month, mark your calendars for August 9! Whether you've been coming for years or you've never stepped foot in the room, we would love to see you there. Come as you are—just bring a Bible, a smile, and maybe a friend who needs a little extra encouragement (or caffeine).

We're saving a seat for you!

Prayer

Prayer is one of, if not the, most important thing that we do as Jesus-followers. Please pray for the following: Austyn (Synnoeve) Damon, Carol (Scott) Phillips, Marje (Mike) Shirey, Bud (Sue) Barber, Tom & Bridgette Gill. Send your prayer request or request to receive prayer chain emails to prayers@cpcgoodyear.org

Men of IAM

Plan to join us on Saturday, August 9th at 8 AM in the Auditorium. Our Bible Study will be led by our President, Russ Schultz.

Bob Gates will be our Chef again, Thank you, Bob! Pastor Mike will lead our Bible Study. Our lesson is "When the Kids Are Grownups Too" using the Study Guide Growing Older and Wiser. The lesson is based on Exodus 18.

GriefShare

GriefShare Returns This August at CPC Goodyear

Grieving the loss of a loved one is never easy—and no one should walk that road alone. Starting Tuesday, September 9 at 10:00 AM, CPC Goodyear will host GriefShare, a 13-week support group designed to help you navigate the pain of loss and begin the journey toward healing. The group will meet in the Education Building, Room 204B.

GriefShare is a safe, welcoming space where people truly understand the difficult emotions you may be facing. Whether your loss is recent or from years past, this group offers support, guidance, and comfort tailored to the unique grief process. There are no “right” steps or timelines—just honest conversations, helpful tools, and compassionate community.

You’ll learn what’s “normal” in grief, how to manage the unpredictability of emotions, and healthy ways to cope in your day-to-day life.

You don’t have to grieve alone. Sign up today at griefshare.org

Hope and healing are possible—and this could be your first step forward.

Divorce Care

We’re excited to announce that CPC Goodyear is again able to host DivorceCare, a life-changing support group for anyone navigating the challenges of separation or divorce.

Beginning Wednesday, August 6 at 5:30 PM, this 13-week, video-based series offers practical guidance, biblical teaching, and caring community to help participants find healing and hope.

Over 1 million people have already walked this journey with DivorceCare, and now it’s available right here at CPC. Whether you’re recently separated or have been divorced for years, you’ll find a welcoming space where others understand what you’re going through.

Got kids? Not a problem! We’re also offering DivorceCare for Kids (DC4K) during the same time. This program helps children process the changes in their family with age-appropriate support, activities, and encouragement—while parents attend their own session.

Ready to begin the healing journey? Visit divorcecare.org to sign up and find out more.

Come as you are. You’re not alone.

Blood Drive

The blood drive at CPC on Saturday, July 19, 2025, was another success. We exceeded the goal and collected 33 units of blood. Since we started hosing blood drives in 2023, we have collected 259 units of blood (this includes the 33 collected July 19). This total has the potential of helping save up to 777 patients! Thank you everyone who helped in any way!!

Moving forward – would you like to be part of a NEW blood drive team? There is quite a bit that goes on before, during, and after each drive. A team would help with preparations for each drive:

1. Recruiting people to help clear the auditorium either the Sunday before the drive after 2nd service or the day of the drive at 7:00 AM;
2. Recruit people to help reset the auditorium after the drive is over to prepare for Sunday worship;
3. Recruit people to help during the drive to welcome & register donors; and
4. Encourage people to sign up to donate blood.

Christ Presbyterian Church typically hosts 2-3 Red Cross Blood Drives per year. If you are interested being part of the BLOOD DRIVE TEAM, speak with Marje Shirey mrs.shirey62@gmail.com OR 309-712-6482

Celebrate Recovery

Do you have a hurt, a habit, or a hang-up that you can't seem to shake? Celebrate Recovery may be the answer to your struggle. Celebrate Recovery is NOT solely for the chemically dependent and has great lessons to overcome many temptations. It is a faith journey as much as it is a journey of recovery. We're planning to start a group here at CPC in October. If you would like to be part of the group that helps start this ministry, or for more information, please contact Pastor Mike at pastorshirey@cpcgoodyear.org.

Ministry Opportunities

We have several people in the church who are shut-in or otherwise unable to attend church regularly. Some of these folks would appreciate calls, texts, or cards. Here is the current list: Carol Phillips (Scott), Celest Jain, Bud Barber (Sue), Tom and Bridget Gill. If you know of any other people who would appreciate visits or prayer, please let Pastor Mike know at pastorshirey@cpcgoodyear.org.

Arctic Kids Ministry

From Mystery Solvers to Mission Movers: Arctic Kids August Update!

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With you in the journey,

Arctic Kids Team
Director of Children's Ministry

Middle School 678

Changes Coming to Arctic Kids – And a Big Woohoo for What's Next!

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Let's keep growing, glowing, and going after Jesus—one hallway at a time!

Shawna Farrish
Director of Children's Ministry

10:30AM
Service Only



*All kids in 6th-12th Grade
Beginning Sunday, August 3rd
Dismissed from Service*

Family Worship Sunday! August 3, 2025

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

6 Weeks – 1st Grade: Drop off in the
Education Wing before service starts.

Backpack Tag Blessing

During Family Worship
Sunday, August 3, 2025

Make **sure** to have your student pick up a tag
on their way out of service

DIVORCE *Care*

Begins Wednesday August 6, 2025
5:30 PM Education Bldg. Rm. 204B

Write DivorceCare on your
connect card today!

Men's Bible Study

Saturday, August 9 8 AM
\$5 Breakfast
in the CPC Auditorium

Women's Monthly Bible Study Saturday, August 9

10:00AM

CPC Auditorium
Coffee, Bible Study & Fellowship

GriefShare®

Begins Tuesday September 9, 2025
10 AM Education Bldg. Rm. 204

Write GriefShare on your
connect card today!

Christ Presbyterian Church Goodyear

Loving God, Serving His World, Changing Lives

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