



CHRIST DIED
FOR US

The Goodness

Monthly Newsletter of Uptown Baptist Church

August 2026

The Goodness

Uptown Baptist Church

Fail Fast

Pastor Nick Kim

In 1953, in a San Diego lab, chemists were trying to come up with a formula that would displace water and prevent rust on aerospace parts and missiles. The team at Rocket Chemical Company were having a difficult time. They tried compound after compound, searching for the right formula. They would write up the formula, produce and test it, only for it to fail. They didn't quit though. The world needed this formula. On their 40th try, they tested and found success. They would soon learn that their formula could be used on a lot more than just aerospace parts and missiles. As word got out, demand grew. The chemists didn't know how to market it so they called it what they had it labeled in the lab, Water Displacement 40. This is how the world got WD-40. The next time you're cleaning your kitchen

with the all-purpose cleaner Formula 409, know that there is a similar story. In these examples and countless others from the technology world, teams didn't just fail and quit. They kept at it and impacted the world.

This is the story of mankind. We have all failed. Something happens then we get tested. The results will vary. You can think of our time on earth as our funding-- at some point the funding will run out. Will our lives show that when we failed, we kept at it and tried again? A lot of people quit, some right away, others later on. They give in to whatever the devil throws at them. I pray that you will keep at it and that when you look back on all your tries you will see many blessings and countless changed lives. Your life won't be marked by how many times you failed. Your life will show that when you failed, you learned from it, and then let the Lord use you. When you fail, fail fast.

Baptism at the Lake and Church Picnic



August 8th • 10AM

Fail Fast

- 8/2 Heavy Glory
- 8/9 Do Not Be Frightened
- 8/16 Don't Run
- 8/23 Rahab's Faith
- 8/30 Perfect Strength



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In His Service



1011 W. Wilson

120 years ago this month, the doors opened at 1011 W. Wilson Ave. The Gospel has been shared from this address ever since.

Why here?

Wilson station opened in 1900 bringing residents to what was known as Lakeview Township. People wanting to escape strict reconstruction requirements from the fire and crowded conditions on the south side found space attractive. That same year, the Northshore Congregational Church was organized. In 1902, they purchased land for \$14,500, land that was only a short walk from the train station. That would be their future home.

Construction

The architecture firm of Patton and Miller had gained notoriety designing many of the Carnegie Libraries. The first pastor, Rev. James Stuart Ainslie, insisted that the tower not have a rounded steeple, but a flat roof. He had read about a new technology (not even 10 years old) called radio that required antennas. He envisioned preaching through the technology to thousands. Construction was completed in August of 1906.

The Chicago Beach Wars

In 1910, Wilson Ave. Beach came to what is now the intersection of Wilson and Marine. It quickly gained a reputation as the best beach in the city. The train station brought thousands of beach goers. Resorts and

bath houses opened which brought “undesirable” crowds. Teenagers lit bonfires, couples stayed out past midnight, and people wearing bath robes walked the streets. Residents who had moved to the community for space and a quieter life were outraged. At the time, there was only one path between the train station and the beach. In the middle of that path was the church. Rev. Ainslie moved Sunday evening service to the steps at the Sheridan entrances. He would preach from the steps closest to Wilson while the choir sang from the other steps.

The church became the staging ground for the improvement association's efforts against the beachgoers. The bath houses started to see an impact on their business. A hired thug tried to convince Rev. Ainslie to move his service back indoors. He refused. On August 13, 1911, a rough looking man was seen sneaking around the church. He was caught trying to set the church on fire. This sent shock waves through the community. Many survivors of the Great Fire now lived in the community. This was also the first recorded incident of organized crime in the neighborhood. Over the next 15 years some of the most notorious mobsters in history would set up shop in the community. The incident led to the bath houses going out of business. Stricter zoning requirements led to the tightly regulated Clarendon Municipal Beach ending the Chicago Beach Wars.

To be continued next month



1908, before Truman College



1906, Edward Fitzsimmons Dunne lived in this mansion in the neighborhood. He was mayor of Chicago when the church opened and visited. He is the only mayor of Chicago to be elected Governor of Illinois.



1908, Sheridan Ave. @ Sunnyside



1910, Wilson Ave. Beach.



Annual Backpack Drive

**Cookout & Giveaway
Aug. 15th • 11AM-2PM**



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