



March 2026

The Goodness

Uptown Baptist Church

March the Madness

Pastor Nick Kim

During March, there is a lot of focus on college basketball. Our culture calls it March Madness. Teams across the nation enter the month trying to be in position to win their conference championship. After the conference championships, the 68 best teams (which includes the conference champions) make the NCAA tournament. At the end of the tournament which will carry into April, a national champion is crowned.

Before the tournament begins, fans complete brackets predicting who will win each game. They will follow each game keeping up with how thier brackets are doing. No one has ever had succesfully predicted every game of the tournament. In 2019, an Ohio man successfully predicted the first 49 games when his streak came to an end. When the madness is over, then what?

The same type of thing happens with us. The tournaments are our lives and our souls is what is at stake. The win is the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Do we get excited about that like our culture (including some of us) gets for basketball? I'm hoping you see that question as a slam dunk with the answer being an emphatic yes.

The Chicago Bulls recently acquired a player named Jaden Ivey. Ivey's mother was a WNBA player and is now the women's coach at Notre Dame. His father was an NFL player and his grandfather was also an NFL player. He grew up heavily involved in sports. He also grew up neglected. His childhood was full of abuse, and in his teen years he was addicted to porn, drinking, and partying. He felt empty. A full ride to Purdue and getting drafted into the NBA by the Detroit Pistons wouldn't change that. He got to a point where he had enough and he totally surrendered to Christ. As a 22 year old in the NBA, he knew only Christ could fulfill him. That offseason he was baptized and hasn't looked back since. He is very vocal about Christ in his press conferences and shares the gospel through his social media presence. He is often criticized for sharing Christ, but that does not deter him. The highest heights of profession success and money would not satisfy him, but Christ does.



March The Madness

- 3/1 James Gone Mad
- 3/8 True Meaning of Joy
- 3/15 My Will or God's Will
- 3/22 Repay Evil with Blessing
- 3/29 Faith is Everything



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In His Service



Pastor Nick and Ji

Last Sunday we celebrated the 5th Anniversary for Pastor Nick and Ji at UBC. Here's a brief glimpse into 5 years of ministry at UBC.

2021

- Nightly Prayer Meetings (Tue-Fri)
- Youth Ministry
- Men's Ministry

2022

- Children's Worship Center
- VBS
- Website Redesign
- Children's Christmas Party

2023

- Wednesday Morning Service
- AV Enhancements
- The Goodness
- Thanksgiving at UBC

2024

- Taste4Grace
- Rebranding
- Winter Walk on Wilson

2025

- Air Conditioning
- Exterior Improvements
- Security Improvements
- Backpacks at UBC

2026

The Name Above Every Other Name



When we first occupied our building around 1980, the building was not in good shape. When it rained, there were a dozen waste baskets collecting water as it poured in. Every year, the congregation would repair walls, pipes, windows, cieling, and parts of the roof. The original idea was that the banners would cover the ugly walls in our worship space and dampen the bounce from amplified instruments played during worship.

A team led by Brian Bakke started work on the banners which had the name of Jesus Christ in the language of the groups who were worshipping in the building. The banners have become part of the DNA to our church, but they are well past their life.

On May 30th at 3PM, we will be having a worship service and an international dinner where we will reveal our new banners. The banners will be a literal translation of the name of Jesus Christ in the different languages of the ministries that were either started by or have been supported by UBC. The banners are being made in the following languages: Afrikaans, Hmong, Bemba, Arabic, English, Spanish, Amharic/Tigrinya, Hindi, Russian, Lao, Bosnian, Bulgarian, Thai, Japanese, Filipino, Twi/Swahili, Khmer, Mandarin, Native American (TBD), Hausa, Korean, Vietnamese, and Ukrainian.

This will be a joyous time as we celebrate the name that is above every other name.



Uptown Baptist Church
1011 W. Wilson Ave. Chicago, IL 60640
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