

The Goodness



November 2025

The Goodness

Uptown Baptist Church

Ghosting God?

Pastor Nick Kim

In 1952, Wheaton College graduate Jim Elliot led a group of missionaries including pilot Nate Saint to Ecuador, where they would try to reach the Huaorani Indian tribe. After making contact, they were speared to death and left in the Curaray River. Relief groups and even the military went in to evacuate their families. These men and their families had been called to reach the Huaorani. Under the circumstances, one could understand if the families vacated. Jim Eliot's wife and Nate Saint's sister couldn't do that. God had called them. Despite all the people pleading with them to return to the United States, they were not going to ignore God. They were going to reach the Huaorani.

They made contact with a Huaorani woman named Dayuma who taught them the language and made a way for them to communicate with the tribe. The women and children moved in with the tribe and led them to Christ. One of the men who had speared the missionaries was Mincanye. Mincanye watched from a distance. He watched Nate Saint's young son, expecting him to get revenge for what had happened to his father. Steve Saint grew up among the tribe and did not seem to have any bitterness. He would go on to lead Mincanye to Christ.

Sometimes God asks us to do hard things.

Sometimes we're asked to do things beyond our own abilities. Do we do God like we do a lot of people with our phones? (ignore the text, decline the call) Are we going to ghost God?

In the mid-1970's, this neighborhood was only a shadow of its glorious past. Alcoholism, drugs, prostitution, and gangs were prevalent. Many people with complex needs found a home here. God had called a man who grew up in the neighborhood back to the neighborhood who understood that the biggest need in the neighborhood was the Gospel. Jim Queen answered the call and he shared this calling with others. This led to the formation of our church. Recently Pastor Queen went to be with the Lord, but the call and corresponding text messages are being forwarded to us. This neighborhood needs the gospel. Let's not ghost God and allow Him to use us in mighty ways.



Mincanye and Steve Saint at Amsterdam 2000

Now you can give through:



Ghosting God?

- 11/2 Come to Jesus
- 11/9 How is Your Investment
- 11/16 Do Not Keep Silent
- 11/23 To Jesus
- 11/26 Tradition or Jesus



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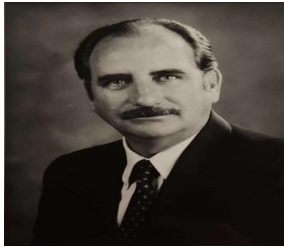


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In His Service



Pastor Jim Queen
1937-2025

Pastor Jim Queen was the founding pastor of
Uptown Baptist Church

- A lot of stories have been shared about the effort that went into starting our church. What started off in apartments shifted to a storefront to having to get an adjacent storefront. Sunday School had to be held in vans. They even had church at an ice rink. Pastor Queen's sister joined him and church members on a prayer walk around 1979. They came to the corner of Wilson and Sheridan where she claimed the church that was there in the name of Jesus. A year later that became our permanent home.
- In the mid-70's, the Hmong escaped persecution following the Vietnam war. Many of the refugees lived in Uptown. Some Hmong Christians approached Pastor Queen about using our facility (a small storefront) to meet. Pastor Queen without hesitation took the key off of his key ring and handed it to them. The church has continued to be diverse and mission-minded ever since.
- Countless stories have been shared of how Pastor Queen just enjoyed people whoever they were and wherever they were in life. From the church to the streets, to the basketball courts and everywhere in between, Jim Queen made an impact on a lot of lives for the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Pastor Jim Queen

By Mindy Cobb

Jim Queen was a seminary student at Southern Seminary in Louisville, Ky when he was approached by the Home Mission Board (now NAMB) to start a church in Chicago. He attended the Southern Baptist Convention in Kansas City and invited Lindsay and I out to dinner. We took him to our favorite Mexican restaurant where he spent most of the evening drawing his dreams on napkins. We moved to Chicago on December 1, 1976 and never looked back.

Pastor Queen was a visionary who encouraged us all to dream big dreams. He had a passion for Jesus and passion for people. He saw the best in people and believed in you more than you did yourself. He felt like you were the best person for the job and you wanted to live up to his expectations.

Whenever new people came to church, he would encourage them to look around and see how they fit in. He walked the streets of Uptown praying for people on the street, families, businesses, ministries, alcoholics, and the mentally challenged. He treated them all with love and respect, and they loved and respected him. He taught the church 2 Corinthians 5:7 "Walk by faith, not by sight." He lived this verse out over and over again. He believed God would do great things and he taught us to expect the same. He loved the city and had a gift of helping you see the city through his eyes. We need to continue this ministry of raising up more people passionate for Jesus and for the city. Uptown Baptist Church will continue loving Jesus and loving people until Christ returns.



Uptown Baptist Church
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