



CHRIST DIED
FOR OUR SINS

The Goodness

Monthly Newsletter of Uptown Baptist Church

Your Spiritual Greens

Pastor Nick Kim

John had a rough childhood. He was raised and baptized at Central Baptist Church in Dyess, AR. He accepted Christ at a young age, but what he really wanted was for his father to accept him. When his brother was killed in a tragic accident, his father blamed him. This caused even worse pain than losing the brother whom he considered his best friend. He left home and lived a wild life. He tried drinking the pain away, and when that didn't work, he tried drugs, then women. John surrounded himself with friends who were living the same lifestyle. Like many young men in eastern Arkansas, he went to Memphis looking for excitement.

He got married and sold appliances to make a living. At night he played guitar in the clubs and played with some guys who helped him get an audition at Sun Records.

Johnny Cash would soon become a music star. That did nothing for his pain. His second wife demanded

that he clean up and go to church. Johnny finally recommitted his life to Christ, though his struggles with drugs were far from over. He spent his last 30 years at First Baptist Church in Hendersonville, TN, where he was disciplined. He loved studying the Bible, made several Gospel albums, and often shared his testimony at prisons, rehab facilities, and Billy Graham crusades. He grew in the Lord, and lived the rest of his life for Him.

Most of us don't have a testimony that dramatic, but all of us should be on the same journey. We should grow. One of the first things we are taught (but resist) is eating your greens. In June, we're going to be talking about your spiritual greens. What are you doing and feeding yourself to help you grow in Christ?



Johnny Cash with Billy Graham

July 13-17th 5:30PM



Your Spiritual Greens

- 6/7 God's School of Prayer
- 6/14 Get Rid of It!
- 6/21 Make Up Your Mind!
- 6/28 Fruit of the Loom



uptownbaptistchurch.com





Dein Sofley

VBS is right around the corner. This year our directors are Dein Sofley and Ji Kim. Let's take a minute and get to know Dein.

Where did you grow up?

If you follow the red tile housing developments between Orange County and Santa Barbara along the 101, that's where I grew up.

How did you find UBC?

I was in Santa Barbara and was called to Uptown to serve the community. I searched for a baptist church and UBC was the closest. I walked to church that Sunday to attend services. I was walking by the following Wednesday and was moved by Pastor Lyon's preaching. I talked to God on the way home and knew this is where I belong.

What led to you becoming so active in UBC?

Sandra found out I have a heart for worship and marched me up to Mike Choby. I just kept asking, "What's next Papa?" There has not been a shortage of ways to serve.

What does VBS mean to this church?

We are called to be the salt and light in the world. VBS presents an opportunity for us to grow in the body of Christ. We get to shine a light on who Jesus really is. We get to help kids know and follow Him.

I pray He will break down barriers and make our church a bright light in this community. I pray our lives will be a clear reflection on who He really is.

The Name Above Every Other Name



Our new banners are up and proclaim the name of Jesus Christ in different languages spoken around the world. But they didn't get there without a lot of hard work from different servants.

Over a year ago, we asked for volunteers to serve on a steering committee who would guide the project to completion. The first thing agreed on was that each banner would be a literal translation of the name of Jesus Christ. The next question was, 'Of what material should the banners be made?' Pearl Davis pushed us to go with the most enduring fabric, so canvas was chosen.

The next big question was, 'What colors should they be?' Ji Kim strongly recommended sticking with four colors and keeping it uniform. She then helped with the next solution on what we would do for letters. She introduced us to the world of Cricut, a machine that cuts out vinyl letters. Ji developed the prototype which convinced us we could get this done. Samantha Gee and others put in many hours constructing the banners. Brandon Pierce and Kenneth Hall led the effort to hang the banners.

On May 30th, we celebrated the unveiling of the new banners with a special worship service with music led by John Watson. Speakers with ties to the languages spoke about how God had used Uptown Baptist Church with those people groups. We then had an international feast downstairs. Don't let Pearl tell you it was just a taste. It was a feast. We celebrated half a century of taking the name of Jesus Christ to the nations, and we look forward to continuing to proclaim his name to more.



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