

The Goodness



April 2025

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Uptown Baptist Church

Fearless

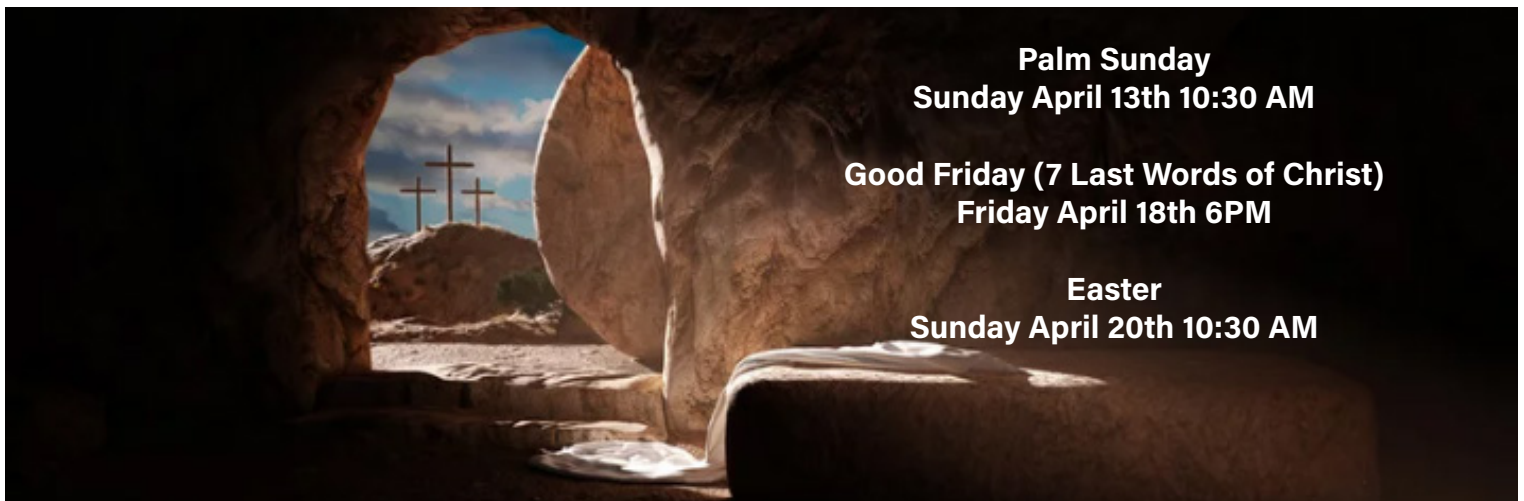
Pastor Nick Kim

A well-known parachurch leader and evangelist was flying his airplane to an event at night. Suddenly, all the lights on his instrument panel went out. He needed to see his instrument panel to be able to get to the airport and land. When flying over Chicago at night you can see where you're going. When you're flying over rural America, it's pitch black. He radioed for help, but the small airports in the area were closed for the evening. No one could hear his calls. He knew he did not have enough fuel to make it to daylight. He was facing an impossible situation. He kept trying the radio, then he pleaded with God.

In the distance, he saw a light. He pointed the plane in that direction and hoped that he would see it again. He saw it again and approached for landing. As he got close to the ground, he was able to make out the runway with the moonlight and safely land. As his plane approached the tower, a man came out screaming asking if he just

landed there? The evangelist explained what happened and that he saw the light. The airport owner explained that he had friends over for dinner and took them in the tower to just show them the different lights, not to open the airport for operation. After getting a new fuse, his instrument panel was like new. Fear gripped him, and he took a nap in his plane until daylight.

Jesus lived his whole life on this earth knowing how it was going to end. He knew that he would rise again, but that didn't change the fact that he was still human. If any of us were told that we were going to suffer severe humiliation and pain, we'd look for another path. From the wedding at Cana to the Garden of Gethsemane, Jesus could have taken another path. He even asked God the Father if it was possible. This month as we reflect up on his journey to the cross, we will explore being "Fearless". We will see that many of the things we fear have already been conquered and defeated.



Fearless

4/6 Proper Fear

4/13 New Kind of King

4/20 Death Could Not Keep Him

4/27 Gospel and Mission



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In His Service



Pearl Davis

Pearls are precious gems often used as jewelry. At UBC, we have a precious gem named Pearl, but she is a lot more than jewelry. She is involved in everything from being our treasurer to cooking for VBS. We would say she serves anytime she is asked, but we don't have to ask. She will ask you though.

Where did you grow up?

I grew up in Turrell, a small town in northeastern Arkansas.

After graduating from high school, I moved to Chicago. I have lived in the Uptown neighborhood area for over 40 years.

How did you discover UBC?

I got a pamphlet from Uptown Church and decided to visit. I didn't realize there was Uptown Church and Uptown Baptist Church. I went to the wrong church, but it was in God's plans for where I needed to be. After such a warm and spiritual welcome, I continued to attend Sunday services. I became a member in July of 2019.

**When Uptown Covenant changed its name to Uptown Church that*

year, we worried about confusion, but God is in control.

What blesses you the most about being a part of the UBC family?

It is my supportive family. It offers me a place to fellowship with others as well as spiritual growth. UBC provides a sense of community, belonging, and spiritual growth. I can feel the presence of the Holy Spirit through the teaching, the members, and their prayers.

After a career as a CPA, what made you want to be the treasurer for UBC?

I find the role fulfilling because it allows me to contribute to my church's mission and financial needs. I enjoy working on other committees as well.

Interview by Pastor Mark Jones

7 Last Words

Pastor Joshua Yoak

In Baptist Churches, it is a common tradition to preach on the 7 Last Words of Christ on Good Friday. These are the seven last sayings of Christ from the cross.

1. "Father, Forgive them; for they know not what they do."
2. "Truly I tell you today you will be with me in paradise."
3. "Woman, behold thy son, son behold thy mother."
4. "My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?"
5. "I thirst"
6. "It is finished."
7. "Father, into thy hands I commend my spirit."

During Communion, I often share 2 Corinthians 5:21, which explains that He

who had no sin became sin for us. Was there a more significant event in human history? Sin separates us from God and because of sin, there is death. The only person who never sinned took the punishment for our sins.

We come together and reflect upon this, and give thanks for what Jesus did. When Pastor Nick came to UBC, he moved Good Friday service to the evening. A lot of us had to work on Good Friday and could not attend. He also started a tradition where the preachers are ministers from UBC.

This year, the preachers are:

Elder Tony Anderson
Jean Marc Assignon
Levi Barnes
Pastor Mark Jones
Samuel Lee
Deacon David Morris
Pastor Joshua Yoak

This promises to be a blessed time. Our service will start at 6PM. Earlier I asked if there was a more significant event in human history. There was one which topped this, but you will have to come back Easter Sunday to hear about that. He became death for us, but also defeated death, and by being in Him we will live.



2024 Good Friday Preachers



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