

The Goodness



September 2025

The Goodness

Uptown Baptist Church

Unfinished

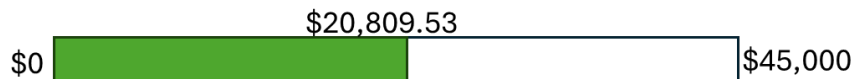
Pastor Nick Kim

A man visited his doctor, and while doing the examination, the doctor said, “it looks like you get a fair amount of exercise.” The man replied that he did. He said the other day, he walked 5 miles over rugged terrain as he climbed over rocks and around trees. He said he also waded along the edges of a lake pushing his way through tall thistles, and even slid down a sandy slope getting sand in his eyes. The doctor was quite impressed telling the man that he must be a dedicated outdoor enthusiast. The man replied, “not really. I’m just a really bad golfer.” I’m sure that the man’s golf game improved with time and through the process he was getting fit and in shape. The same thing happens in our spiritual lives.

When we start to follow Christ, there might be a lot we don’t understand. In the process, we’re actually getting spiritually fit and in shape. Like the golfer, we don’t give up when we put a ball in the lake. We don’t even give up when we put the next one in the sand. We continue on. In our lives, we don’t give up when we mess up. We look to Christ and He works on us, in us, and through us.

In September we’re going to talk about being “Unfinished”. As long as we have air in our lungs to breathe, God is not through with us yet. This also lines up with our church anniversary. On September 27, 1981, Uptown Baptist Church was constituted and God is not finished with us as a church. He has work for us to do and in the process, we’re not only going to get stronger, but we’re helping others get fit.

Air Conditioning Project Update



Our air conditioning was installed on July 20th, and we’re approaching the half way mark in our fundraising. Please pray for this effort, consider donating and spread the word.

Unfinished

9/7 You are Not Done Yet

9/14 God’s Powerful Word

9/21 Become

9/28 Scripture & Your Unfinished Story



uptownbaptistchurch.com



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In His Service



Phil Miglioratti

In between our second and third pastors, we had a long interim. Pastor Dale was with us for a year followed by Pastor Phil. This month, We're catching up with Pastor Phil Miglioratti

What is your connection to Chicago, and where are you now?

I was born and grew up in Lakeview. I went to Foreman High School and graduated from Northeastern Illinois University. I proposed to Carol at Foster Beach and we've been married for 55 years.

I am now in Florida, but continue to be loyal to Chicago sports teams. Go Bears!

What did your experience as Interim Pastor At UBC mean to you?

I was able to enjoy a congregation that modeled and celebrated unity in diversity, and was eager to get out of the seats and into the streets as an expression of prayer-care-share discipleship.

It was an honor to serve the church the Lord used my friend Jim Queen (and so many others) to plant and nurture, but I think that I learned more than I taught.

Your ministry now is "Thought Provoking Pastors and church ministry leaders to remimagine church, what does that mean?"

The transformative message of the Gospel never changes, but how the church receives and shares that message must adapt to the people, places, and issues facing their members. Our lives and ministries, must not be conformed, but be transformed by a new way of thinking. Memories, models, and methods need ongoing review - revising - reviving. the courage to change is essential to lead the church into the future.

You emphasized prayer while you were at UBC. Share an insight on prayer

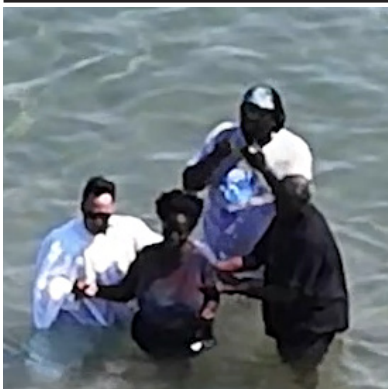
Jesus told us to ask, seek, knock. Was Jesus suggesting not to list everything we want but start with a question. "Lord, how can I pray for this person today?" Lord, I have an unexpected circumstance, a difficult situation, a troubling problem, or a vision for helping people. Talk with me about this Lord. Sprit, fill me with the prayer Jesus is praying so I can follow and agree.

Interview by Pastor Mark Jones

Backpack Drive

For several years, we have collected backpacks and school supplies, and delivered to the schools. We never saw who the backpacks were going to and couldn't really establish a connection. We prayed about how this ministry could have the most impact and decided to do something different this year. Instead of the pastors just dropping off at a school, we got out the grill, turned up the music, and gave the backpacks to kids in need in front of our church. This wasn't just the pastors. This was many of us.

There were a few concerns. This was a few weeks after the alderman's office handed out 900 backpacks at an event in the neighborhood. This was also the weekend after school started. Kids might have what they need by then. We saw many kids who did not have anything yet, walk away with some pretty cool backpacks, full of school supplies. That wasn't the only thing they were walking away with. There were some really big smiles from both kids and parents. UBC showed God cares and so do we.



Baptism at the Lake

On August 9th, we gathered on Montrose Beach to celebrate as eight people identified with Christ in baptism. This was a joyous time that was followed by our church picnic. Mike Choby led us in worship, and many curious onlookers were watching as we took church to the beach.

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