

the heart of who we are





OUR HISTORY

Begun in 1926 directly across the street from the University of Miami, UBC was born as a dream that would unite this city and the world under the grace of a loving God. A resilient group of people faithfully pursued this life with eternal meaning and impact. After a devastating hurricane in 1926, UBC rebuilt. Our people grew stronger. Our church's first pastor, William Russell Owen, said:

"The future beckons us to build a great church . . . making North and South America one...Our future is as bright as the promise of God."

This little booklet is designed to help you understand the heart of *who* we are and *how* we are as Christ's body known as UBC Miami.



THE CHURCH

Every church in the New Testament possesses a unique soulprint that testifies to the heart of who they are. The church in Jerusalem is strong in Jewish flavor and gave birth to a massive small group ministry in their members' homes. The Antioch church is filled with Gentiles, people who virtually have no real acquaintance with the Jewish background of their newfound faith in Christ. Yet the hand of God is upon them as a vital missional congregation. The seven churches of Revelation 2-3 each have their own unique identity in their respective community with their own set of challenges and shortfalls.

There is no such thing as "the" New Testament Church. The truth is there are many New Testament churches.

LORD, I am thine: But thou wilt prove
My faith, my patience, and my love;
When men of spite against me run,
They are the sword, the hand is gone,
I. Their hope and portion is below,
It's all the happiness they know,
It's all they seek; they take their share,
And leave the rest among their heirs.

THOU wilt love, O LORD, my soul,
My rock, my tower, my high defence,
Thy mighty arm shall be my trail,
For I have found salvation thence,
I. Death, and the terrors of the grave
Shall round me with their dismal shade,
While floods of high temptations roil,
And make my sinking soul afraid.



WHO WE ARE

We are a diverse community of imperfect people seeking out the perfect God. The God who is within reach. We are followers of His Son, Jesus Christ, and want our lives to have an eternal impact on our families, this city, and the world. We welcome people from all walks of life, regardless of where they are in their spiritual journey and hope to develop real relationships that last. We want to be marked by our love and the beautiful montage of God's distinctive work in each of our lives. UBC has its own unique identity in community following Christ on mission in Miami.

ONE STORY. YOUR STORY.



Everyone has a story - a unique story that goes to the center of who you are and why God designed a place for you on this earth. A story he wants to infuse with His love and grace. UBC is a composition of stories. We hope that you would begin this chapter of your spiritual journey with us, that you would connect in real relationships with others, and that you would live the story God is writing for you. If you would like to share your story, visit ubcmiami.org/mystory.

