



## DAVE UNMACHT

### CAPITAL CAMPAIGN CHAIRPERSON

One Easter. One Mission. Fulfilling our dream!

In 2024 Easter will celebrate our 50th anniversary. We thank God for a half century of worship and ministry to our congregation and community. As we reflect on our past, rejoice in our present, we are intensely focused on our future.

For half a century, Easter has proved its resiliency through faith in God, a sustaining mission, dedicated pastors, committed staff, and a strong partnership with our community. To grow in faith and carry on the work of Jesus Christ, we must plan for, enhance and invest in our faith and ministry, our worship and music, and our facilities to finish the plans envisioned by our congregation over 25 years ago.

When Pastor Megan asked me to take on a leadership role in the capital appeal, I accepted the invitation; having the opportunity to invest my time and resources in support of Easter today, tomorrow and the future is a once in a lifetime experience. I passionately believe, now is our time; yes this is a formidable effort, and yes, the dreams and goals are large.

Easter members are called to serve, not to dream small; but to dream big to ensure the ministry and mission is successful for generations to come. #wegothis

We're not Lake people and Hill people. We're one people. We're Easter people. We're God's people. One physical location will facilitate stronger relationships across all ages and ministries.

Finally, on a deeply personal level, this is an investment in our children and grandchildren. Imagine the possibilities resulting from our time, talents and resources of today for their faith tomorrow.



## STEP 5: DECIDE TO GIVE SACRIFICIALLY

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Little has ever been accomplished without sacrifice. This is true in our homes, our work, our church, our country. Sacrifice is a necessary component of successful living.

And so it is with the Christian life and faith. Our salvation cost God the cross. Dietrich Bonhoeffer rightly said there is no cheap grace.

Much of church giving is only token giving, averaging about two percent of income. No wonder there is so little joy or satisfaction in it; it requires no sacrifice! We have given only what we could easily afford, what we would not really miss.

Experience has shown that giving, to be meaningful and joyful, has to be sacrificial! Each will have to determine what amount or percentage is sacrificial for his or her circumstances. But experience again suggests that for most people sacrificial giving begins at five percent of income with proportions under five percent falling into the token giving category.

Studies have shown church interest is often low because investment is low. There is no sacrifice. It doesn't really cost anything. Jesus said, "Where your treasure is, there will be your heart also." (Luke 12:34)

Where is my treasure? That is where you will find your heart.

*FROM SIX STEPS TO JOYFUL GIVING, WRITTEN BY DR. BOB GRONLUND*