

## **Terry Masch testimonial**

November 12, 2023

Good morning, my name is Terry Masch, and I'm one of the newest members of Point Washington United Methodist Church. I just joined a couple of weeks ago, as a matter of fact.

Today, I stand before you to discuss the need to support the ministries of God's church. This conversation about money makes some people uncomfortable. Why are we talking about money at church?

Well, the subject didn't make Jesus uncomfortable. 40% of his parables were about money and possessions. There are roughly 2,350 verses concerning money in the Bible. God knew that not only would it be an important topic, but one we had to guard ourselves about, or he wouldn't have mentioned it so much!

Tithing is the giving of a tenth of one's income. It is an approach to stewardship that reflects our gratitude for the abundant blessings we have received. I have been tithing for many years. I started after a Stewardship Campaign at a previous church. I decided to honor the tithe by putting one tenth of my paycheck into a special tithe account as soon as I got paid. I then had the pleasure of spending every last dime from that account.

There is something gratifying about TRYING to empty a bank account. It is a practical way to separate that which goes to God from that which goes to my needs and wants.

The tithe was what brought me to Point Washington United Methodist Church. In addition to putting money aside, you need to be a good steward of that money. You need to make sure the money He is entrusting you with is being well spent.

When I was searching for a church, I did my homework. I googled the pastors, I researched the church history, and I came to see for myself. I visited both services and came to a 'Dinner with the Pastor.' I watched the people coming to the health clinic, watched the clinic building grow. I listened to Pastor Amy's sermons and read the books she recommended. I took part in a bible studies with Pastor Karla. I immersed myself in the wonderful music that Pastor Darrin presents. I even participated in Yoga in the family life center.

After all that, I decided that God would be well pleased with my treasure coming to Point Washington United Methodist Church.

Whatever level of giving you decide on, it should be a conscious choice, not whatever is left over. Pray and decide for yourself what level of support you are comfortable with...then stretch just a little bit farther. I'm sure whatever level of giving you decide on, you will be as excited as I am to support the many ministries that we have here at Point Washington United Methodist Church.

God provides to you so that you can provide to others. We are all just stewards of God's resources. We can't do all of this without each one of us providing their first fruits to make sure everything keeps happening here. To keep the spirit of God alive and well here at Point Washington United Methodist Church and in our community.

In conclusion, let our commitment to giving, or tithing, be a reflection of the fullness of our hearts. Through this approach, may we embody the timeless principles of love, service, and selflessness found in the scriptures.

Let us pray:

Heavenly Father, we come before you with hearts filled with gratitude for the abundance of blessings you have bestowed upon us. Lord, we acknowledge that our time, talents, and treasures are gifts from you, entrusted to us for the betterment of our communities and the world at large. Grant us the wisdom to be faithful stewards, using these gifts to uplift others and glorify your name. In your holy name, we pray. Amen.

## **Ryland Nunn testimonial**

November 5, 2023

Good morning. Well, I am honored to kick off this campaign. And I'm excited to talk about something that I am very passionate about: this church.

When I was preparing for this testimony, I was asked to think about the difference this church has made in my life. Very simply put, it's made all the difference.

As a lifelong member of this church, I've had the opportunity to experience all forms of ministry. In the children's ministry, I was taught the basics of faith and provided a safe and neutering place to grow up. Through the youth ministry, I've been able to create meaningful friendships and create a more personal faith, while also going on fun adventures.

On Sundays, I have been introduced to inspiring hymns and music. I have learned from the interesting sermons. As I have gotten older, I've had the chance to serve in many different ways. Whether it be ushering, volunteering at Club 45, or working on lay leadership. I have learned the importance and value of serving God.

I have also learned the value of community. I've realized how vital it is to have a loving group of supportive people around you. Frankly, this church has been an essential part of my upbringing.

This place has been a second home. I truly don't know where I would be today if I didn't have this community. Because of this, I have decided to give to the Lord through this church. Personally, I give to express my thanks for all the good this church has done in my life.

But, I also give to pay it forward. In hopes that our ministry can touch lives, similar to how it has touched mine. And if we do that for just a few people, it will all be worth it. I hope you'll join me. Thank you.