

THE **ROCK** 



Propelling The Rock into its Next 15 Years of Ministry

A message of hope

In 2009, a joyful and supportive group of Christians grounded in the Word of God organized themselves to better connect people to Jesus Christ and each other. Thanks be to God, our Rock, who has pulled us out of the mud and mire of our sin and placed us on solid ground, for blessing this beginning. By His grace, The Rock Lutheran Church launched its ministry, offering an empowering message of certainty, stability, and hope to people struggling in an uncertain world.

Seasons of growth, location changes, conflict & reconciliation, and a global pandemic ensued, but in each season the Lord remained faithful to His people and reminded them of His steadfast love and promises. “He lifted me out of the slimy pit, out of the mud and mire; he set my feet on a ROCK and gave me a firm place to stand. He put a new song in my mouth, a hymn of praise to our God. Many will see and fear and put their trust in the Lord.” Psalm 40: 2-3

A moment of opportunity

15 years later, mindful of how much God loves us and how abundantly we are blessed, The Rock Lutheran Church is preparing for the next 15 years of ministry to people who, like us, depend on the Lord’s grace and mercy to lift them up, place their feet on a firm foundation, and put a song of praise in their mouth.

With a new pastor shepherding the congregation, committed and experienced lay leaders, and a vibrant young adult and children’s ministry within its Forever Family, The Rock is uniquely positioned in Seward, Nebraska to nurture relationships and share the empowering Gospel message of Jesus Christ with those who yearn for “a firm place to stand.”

15 Forward

15 Forward is a campaign to launch The Rock into its next era of ministry by setting the church’s feet on a firm financial base while casting a new vision for how it will serve the Lord and His people by Accepting, Connecting, Caring, Equipping, Seeking and Sending in our community and beyond.



Campaign Goal: \$225,000

Overview

The campaign seeks to raise \$225,000 (which is 15 x \$15,000 because Jesus was into multiplying things like loaves, fishes, and how often you should forgive). This is additional funding over three years to help The Rock plan for and carry out its next strategic ministry plan.

To help us remember that God's in control and he can provide more than we could ever ask or imagine, these targets are just that—targets to aim for. We've divided them into three groups of 5 x \$15,000, or \$75,000).

Phase 1: Projects and Place

Ministry Projects: \$75,000

Project and ministry support through one-time gifts and pledges toward priority projects. Several facility projects are burdening the budget and limiting ministry.

The Vision: Completing \$75k in capital projects, including rooftop and conference room A/C units; repairs and updates to the boiler, steam pipes and thermostats; technology/security updates; and classroom and other finishing projects.

Fulfilling the Vision: Completing these projects will provide substantial improvements in comfort and efficiency of heating and cooling the sanctuary and Rock Café, offices and classrooms, and lower levels of The Rock for all who utilize the facility.

Ministry Place: \$75,000

Preparing The Rock's facilities for new opportunities to carry out God's purposes in our community.

The Vision: Complete the replacement of windows on the east and south sides of The Rock (\$75k in new gifts and pledges, matched by existing \$75k matching gift) and/or other capital improvement projects to expand ministry.

Fulfilling the Vision: By finishing the windows on the east and south sides of the facility, the building will become much better suited for regular use by ministries of The Rock and complementary ministries of the community.

Phase 2: Ministry Plan

Ministry Funding Plan: \$75,000 in annual increases over 3 years

Annual giving increases pledged to the Rock's Ministry Funding Plan, including \$25,000 in incremental annual giving each year for three years. These incremental commitments are made in three areas which are interdependent: Faith formation and Discipleship; finances; service.

The Vision: Utilizing Biblical stewardship education resources, each household at The Rock will have an opportunity to evaluate and update their commitments in the areas of faith formation, finances, and service, recording the increases rather than the baseline.

Fulfilling the Vision: \$25,000 increases in gifts to the ministry funding plan for three consecutive years will ensure adequate funds for ministry and expanded opportunities for outreach and staffing.

Beginning with a Blessing

A matching gift meant to inspire and encourage The Rock has been offered to add to the blessings received in the campaign.

Matching Gift: \$100,000

\$75,000 to match new gifts

\$25,000 to fund a long-term ministry planning process or start an endowment

The Vision: the matching gift will serve to inspire generosity of our congregation and provide the seed money to begin a new strategic ministry planning process.

Fulfilling the Vision: In three years, The Rock will have an exciting, updated vision for its future mission and ministry, and it will have a solid facility and financial foundation on which to build.