



A Real Community Partnership

Community service has been in the DNA of the Bedrock Church Network since the beginning. The first **Bedrock Church** was launched in Bedford, a small community between Roanoke and Lynchburg, with community service campaigns that reached businesses and homes across the county.

More recently, one of the founding pastors, Jeremy Minor, was sent out to launch **Bedrock Lynchburg**. This church met in a Lynchburg middle school and used that location to serve the community's needs in the name of Jesus. God blessed the new church with consistent growth and ministry opportunities. Things were going great until COVID caused schools to close their doors, and the church found itself without a place to worship.

Eventually, a YMCA, a mere five-minute drive away, opened its doors and began renting worship space. Pastor Minor approached the YMCA about a long-term lease of the space. A budding relationship eventually grew into a unique and powerful partnership.

YMCA leadership offered Bedrock Lynchburg a unique opportunity to invest in an expansion and remodeling of the YMCA building in return for a zero percent loan for construction and a 30-year fixed rental rate. In addition, the YMCA would be responsible for all the building utilities and maintenance. Bedrock Lynchburg would secure a home base for decades to come.

In the fall of 2023, Bedrock moved into its new home. The building is a beautiful integration of the church and the YMCA. It consists of two types of spaces: those that each organization exclusively uses and those shared by each organization.

By collaborating with a strong community organization such as the YMCA, Bedrock has the opportunity to extend its community service and outreach, fostering a strong sense of unity and collective service and embodying the teachings of love and compassion that are so central to the teachings of Jesus. ■