

St. Alban's Celebrates Major Carbon Zero Project Milestone

Church completes installation of four heat pumps to replace gas furnaces, and has removed all natural gas lines, the gas meter, and service.

Submitted by the Rev. Sara L. Potter, Rector



St. Alban's, Arcata celebrated their Carbon Zero Project with an Open House from 4:00 – 6:00 pm Sunday, December 7. In addition to St. Alban's members, attendees included parishioners from Christ Church, Eureka and representatives from California Heating, the HVAC contractor. A short presentation of the project was followed by a drawing for a variety of green raffle prizes, a chili cook-off and dinner.

St. Alban's has completed installation of four heat pumps to replace the gas furnaces, removed all of the natural gas lines and the gas meter and service. The Church initiated their Carbon Zero Plan in 2019 by installing solar panels. Gas appliances were replaced by energy efficient electric appliances including a heat pump electric water heater, an electric commercial stove, an Energy Star refrigerator, and installation of LED lights throughout the facility. The Carbon Zero Project has been led by St. Alban's Creation Care Team.

St. Alban's thanks its many supporters including Redwood Coast Energy Authority for technical and funding assistance, the Episcopal Diocese of Northern California for grant funding, and numerous individuals for their generous donations. The cost of the project to date is \$115,000.

St. Alban's hopes to inspire other churches, organizations and individuals by sharing their Carbon Zero Project with the community. For more information about St Alban's project please call 707-822-4102 or email officesec@stalbansarcata.org.

Is your church improving its energy efficiency and saving money on its utility bills and at the same time healing our planet? If so, please let Bob know what you are doing so we can share your efforts with the other churches. If not, and you'd like to know how to improve your energy efficiency in 2026, please contact Bob Wohlsen via email: bob.wohlsen@gmail.com