



## Diosesan Churches Improve their Energy Efficiency in 2025

And reduced their carbon footprints and saved money on their utility bills

15 churches have implemented energy efficiency projects and improved their Energy Efficiency this year. St Michaels and All Angels, Ft Bragg, and Christ Church, Eureka are moving forward with major solar projects. Here is a summary of the energy efficiency projects implemented in the diocese:

- St. Augustine of Canterbury, Rocklin - WiFi thermostats to control HVAC systems
- St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Sacramento - LED lighting, programmable thermostats, upgrading inefficient HVAC unit, managing building use
- Good Shepherd, Cloverdale - Switched to 100% green power, LED lighting
- St Barnabas, Mt Shasta - LED lighting, replace older tank water heaters with tankless point-of-use heaters
- Christ Church, Eureka - LED lighting, designing solar system, reusable service items at coffee hour, Green and Creation Care education
- Grace, Fairfield - Replace old gas water heaters with small point of use electric heaters, install mini-split HVAC heat pumps for heating and cooling
- Trinity Cathedral - Replace 14 HVAC units with heat pumps, solar system with batteries to power the units.
- St Michael's, Carmichael - Replace gas furnaces with heat pumps, LED lighting, Smart thermostats, replace kitchen gas water heater with heat pump water heater
- All Saints, Sacramento - Install heat pumps for HVAC, LED lighting, improve building envelope
- Church of Our Savior, Placerville - Replace inefficient HVAC unit
- Emmanuel Episcopal Church, Grass Valley - LED lighting, reusable service items at coffee hour, replace inefficient HVAC units, upgrade building envelope
- St Michael and All Angels, Fort Bragg - Upgrade building envelope, monitor temperature settings on equipment, designing solar system and building upgrades
- St John's, Roseville - Installed WiFi thermostats and LED lighting
- St Alban's, Arcata - Solar system, LED lighting, Energy Star appliances, electric hot water heater, heat pumps to replace all the existing fossil fuel furnaces, Electrical service upgrade to 400 amps, gas meter removed, native plant landscaping, energy efficiency at home education, future project - EV charging stations.
- St James of Jerusalem, Yuba City - Installed Smart thermostats, repaired HVAC ducts, added fresh insulation to attic area, eliminated disposable products for coffee hour and potlucks, composting food waste for their garden, replace sanctuary lights with LED, maintain 11,000

sf vegetable garden that helps absorb and filter air pollution and helps regulate the climate by absorbing carbon dioxide.

In the past 3 years, led by the Commission on the Environment, 39 churches have formed green teams, had their facilities assessed for energy efficiency. Many have created action plans to improve their energy efficiency and achieve carbon neutrality by 2030.

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 me 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 me.

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