St. Augustine Episcopal Church is a welcoming, multigenerational community of Christians dedicated to life-changing faith, nurture and spiritual growth in Christ Jesus.
Welcome home!

Webster's dictionary says, “home is a place where something flourishes.” St. Augustine of Canterbury Episcopal Church in Rocklin, California, is home to some of the most beautiful, kind, talented and generous people you will ever meet. From the doors of our sanctuary, you feel God’s grace. When trouble or sorrow affects one of our members, they receive God’s loving support provided by the hands of so many. When you see our tears, whether from joy or sorrow, you see God’s presence. We invite you to read further about our parish and prayerfully consider if this could be your new home.

St. Augustine Episcopal Church is a dynamic, worshiping community — a safe place for people seeking God. Our congregational life and outreach are grounded in our love for God in Christ and in our love for our neighbors. We look forward to welcoming a new rector who will guide us in discerning God’s plan for our future.

We are a vibrant church community looking to grow and share God’s love with our friends and neighbors. Our church is located in Rocklin, a city of 67,000, surrounded by housing communities with families of all types and ages. There are also active senior retirement communities nearby. We want to work with our new rector to reach out to these folks and invite them to worship with us and become members of our church family. We are 22 miles from Sacramento and 80 miles from Truckee and Lake Tahoe where winter and summer sports abound. The beautiful Napa Valley, known world-wide for its wineries, is 77 miles away, and San Francisco just 108 miles away.

St. Augustine is the 10th largest of 68 parishes and missions in the Episcopal Diocese of Northern California which serves 11,450 congregants. The diocese is divided into seven geographical deaneries, and St. Augustine is part of the Central Deanery. This is an exciting time in our diocese. Our new bishop, the Rt. Rev. Megan M. Traquair, was consecrated in June 2019. We value our strong relationship with the diocese and look forward to working closely with Bishop Megan as she embarks on her journey.

St. Augustine celebrated its 25th anniversary November 2017. Four vicars and rectors have served St. Augustine during this time. Our most recent rector was with us for nearly eight years. We are now served by a transition team: lead pastor, associate pastor, senior and junior wardens, and the treasurer. Our paid staff consists of a lead pastor, parish administrator, music director and nursery attendants. Sunday School teachers and patient advocates are volunteers.

Our parish profile reflects the spirit, strengths, challenges, hopes and dreams of St. Augustine. We invite the next rector of our church to join us in seeking what God is calling us to do and be.

For more information about our history, ministries and staff, we invite you to explore our website:

Faithfully in Christ,
The St. Augustine of Canterbury Profile Committee
Representing the Vestry and the Parish
Our vision

To build on the present and prepare for the future!

At St. Augustine, we worship God and encourage spiritual formation for people of all ages, sharing compassion not judgment. We work together to serve others, both locally and globally. We embrace worshiping and serving together, wherever we are in our journeys, by supporting each other in our joys and struggles. We pride ourselves as a safe harbor for all people seeking God.

Our vision is to continue our commitment to financial stability, responsible stewardship, Christian formation, church growth and outreach. We value our style of worship and take great pride in our liturgy and our inspiring music. Another key element of the fabric of our congregation is our unconditional support and concern for one another.

We are blessed to have a strong lay ministry that assists in our regular worship services as well as serving those at home. Strong lay leadership is pivotal to our robust ministries. The congregation at St. Augustine is dedicated to faith in action and is committed to living out the gospel by providing for the needs of our Christian community near and far.

In preparation for writing our parish profile, our congregation was thoroughly engaged and participated in the following activities: living room conversations; online survey; SWOT analysis of strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats; town hall presentations and real-time software.

Our goals and focus areas for the next chapter in the life of St. Augustine were formulated by the responses to the various engagement activities as well as the goals generated by our leadership over the past few years. Our vision is grounded in the Holy Spirit. We celebrate our gifts and work to identify the needs and challenges of our parish as we look toward the future. Our congregational life finds its roots in our love for God in Christ and our love for our neighbors.

We look forward to working side by side with our new rector as we meet the challenges and opportunities presented to our congregation. We are blessed with a parish that is poised to move forward into the future.
Our journey to sanctuary

Organized as a community of faith, St. Augustine of Canterbury Episcopal Church became a mission of the Episcopal Diocese of Northern California in October 1998. St. Augustine was granted parish status November 2012.

The property for our first church home, 1800 Wildcat Boulevard was purchased by the diocese in 2003. In early 2011, a vision was cast to build a permanent home for St. Augustine. Ground was broken in January 2013. Construction began July 2013. During the process of planning the church, many parishioners contributed their professional skills and talents to the planning and building: engineering, financing, interior design and strategic planning are just a few. We celebrated our first official service in this beautiful ‘sacred space’ we now call home on December 22, 2013.

The church building is located on the front acreage of the Wildcat property. The 8,000-square-foot building includes an entry, a fully equipped kitchen, offices, storage, restrooms, Sunday School rooms, a sacristy, a nursery and a sanctuary designed to seat 242. A large open fellowship area, Canterbury Hall, stands just outside the glass doors of the sanctuary, providing a gathering place for meetings, potlucks and fellowship.

A large parking lot surrounds the building. Being climate conscious, the church has now installed large solar panels on the roof. The exterior of the building features stone siding and a beautiful lighted cross tower which serves as a beacon for the neighborhood.

The sanctuary has a peaceful atmosphere and is a quiet place with simple furnishings. One of our earliest members constructed an altar table and a large Celtic cross mounted high above the altar, made from our old pews. We were gifted beautiful stained glass windows by a mission church that was closing. A columbarium was added to the back of the sanctuary.

Our church is a peaceful place to call home. Our parish is called to continually and prayerfully discern the next steps of the development of this property lovingly entrusted to us by God. We welcome all who enter our doors to this sacred space, a legacy for generations to come.
Here I am to worship

The Episcopal Church provides an emphasis on the beauty of liturgy, and we love and appreciate whole heartedly the various ways we can immerse ourselves in our ways of worship. In addition to the beautiful liturgy, we value the inspiring music that surrounds us.

St. Augustine strongly identifies with the Episcopal liturgical tradition as central to our worship. We offer two Sunday services: 8 a.m. is meditative in nature, without music; the 10 a.m. service is more traditional and offers choir and piano music. St. Augustine has two regular contemplative prayer services: Mondays at 7:30 p.m. and Fridays at noon.

The altar guild takes great pride in setting the table for eucharist and preparing the sanctuary for worship. Our greeters, welcome team and ushers strive to extend a warm hello to each and every person who enters our doors.

St. Augustine is blessed to have a strong lay ministry that assists in our regular worship services. Members of all ages participate as acolytes, lay eucharistic ministers, choir members and the tech team members. Our priests and acolytes are vested for services. During worship, we display slides to help the attending congregation follow along. We see our slides as a way to engage the congregation and enhance their worship experience.

The slides may, at the surface, seem like a simple visual tool for following the service. But they are more than that. They are an aid in our worship engagement, a call to action for our congregation and a display of our love for our church. Graphically pleasing and concisely informative, our announcement slides help tell our story of faith in action and church life.

Within our worship services, we also dedicate a portion to thanksgivings, blessings and announcements. Our members have an opportunity to share with the congregation special and important events in their lives—celebrating a 90th birthday, giving thanks for a successful medical treatment or requesting prayers for safe travel. This brings our members closer together and deepens our connections with each other.

Our services are inspiring, and at the same time, comfortable. You can come as you are, and you will be welcome—jeans, tennis shoes, suits, dresses and even hats. St. Augustine is a safe place to worship.
Together we learn and grow

St. Augustine has a strong commitment to grow our youth and adult formation programs. We intend to see these ministries continue to grow as new, younger parishioners join us.

Members of the FISH Youth Group were active for a number of years. However, attendance at church and youth events has dwindled in the last year or so. Many of our active youth have graduated and moved on to college or the workplace. Currently, we are partnering with nearby Episcopal and Methodist churches for youth activities. This an area for growth and improvement.

In previous years, we had a paid Children’s Ministry Director, but finances dictated the need to eliminate the position. Our current Sunday School program is run by two very dedicated volunteers who alternate as lead teachers, assisted by parent volunteers. The nursery is staffed by two (paid) capable high school students. St. Augustine has hosted successful Vacation Bible Schools for a number of years. We hope to continue this tradition in the future.

It is a joy to hear the noisy chaos coming from our nursery and Sunday School. Our congregation loves the sounds of the children and babies. We are delighted, grateful and blessed to hear the voices of our children both inside the nursery and in the sanctuary. It puts a smile on our faces and embraces the richness of the many generations our members represent.

Our members value the educational opportunities in the adult formation classes, which include Lenten series, retreats, study groups and Bible classes. Many of our parishioners have experienced the Cursillo weekend and continue to meet 4th Day groups and serve on future teams.
Outreach: a hand up!

The congregation at St. Augustine is dedicated to faith in action and is committed to living out the Gospel by providing for the needs of our Christian community near and far. That philosophy is carried out in local community outreach within our diocese as well as in outreach around the world.

A donated grocery cart at the entrance of St. Augustine gathers food and clothing donations that are distributed weekly to a local Episcopal food pantry and to The Gathering Inn Homeless Shelter. Our homeless brothers and sisters are also provided with dinner and a place to sleep one day each month. We often provide emergency shelter when other churches cannot accommodate the guests.

A team from St. Augustine regularly prepares and serves meals at the St. Vincent de Paul dining room. We support an Episcopal Church which has now become a Mission for refugees through donations and service at their food bank. St. Augustine has been the site for several meal packing events for Rise Against Hunger, an international hunger relief organization. Our Mission and Outreach Team raises funds to support various ministries and projects both local and global.

St. Augustine also partners with St. Luc School in Thomassique, Haiti. Several work-related trips have been made to Haiti by parishioners, and fundraisers have been held to support our partnership. For example, solar panels were installed in the classrooms to provide light. We have also been able to equip students with uniforms, train teachers, provide noon meals and even procure additional land for the school expansion. In addition, water drilling efforts in Central America have taken St. Augustine parishioners there to equip villages with fresh water.
Wherever two or more are gathered
together in His name

The Holy Spirit is alive and well at St. Augustine. There is a chemistry found in our connections to each other. One of our strengths is our unconditional support and concern for one another.

We are like a family in that regard, taking pleasure and pride in our congregational relationships. We will celebrate with you, we will cry with you and we will eagerly provide ourselves as resources for one another.

Our parish thrives and is enriched when we gather together, whether playing bingo, hosting a luau with hula dancers or learning country western line dancing. Work parties, potlucks and barbecues bring out the best in our congregation—we love to cook, party and celebrate life to its fullest. Our fellowship events, from fundraisers to social gatherings, offer opportunities to get to know each other in informal settings. These events are well attended and loads of fun. Our congregation is extremely active and enjoys all aspects of our church life.

In moments of need, we welcome the stranger off the street who is seeking comfort after the loss of her son. When a dear friend passes away, we support the family with food, love, compassion and grace. In times of crisis, we stand by each other—when a daughter needs advice for the care of her aging mother—and we come forth with contacts as well as love and prayers.

St. Augustine has a high level of pastoral care. Lay eucharistic ministers visit home-bound members each week. Members also assist each other during times of illness or death with meals, spiritual support and any help as needed. Our associate pastor, a registered nurse and a doctor work together to assist members during times of illness. They help with contacts, doctor visits and consultations.

Daughters of the King members continually pray for those with special needs. Our Prayer Shawl ministry gifts those in need with beautifully hand-knit shawls to offer comfort in a tangible way. The Brotherhood of St. Andrew members raise funds for outreach and volunteer at church functions to help set up and take down. They participate in the National Day of Service helping parish members with home projects. The Meal Train Ministry provides meals to families in need.

We know each other’s stories, value each member and connect deeply with one other.
Growing to serve

St. Augustine has experienced fluctuation in membership over the years. There has been a healthy increase in membership since our church was built six years ago. There is great opportunity for more growth in our congregation based on our geographical location.

The surrounding community is awash with new construction of single-family homes, senior living complexes and apartments. The right leadership will be instrumental in guiding us to invite our new neighbors to visit our welcome community where they can see the benefits of becoming a member of St. Augustine.

Growth of St. Augustine will allow our church family to enhance our Sunday School and youth programs and provide more volunteers for outreach activities. The positive effects of growing our membership will also provide relief from balanced budget concerns.
Giving in gratitude

Our annual pledge drives have had mixed success over the years. We recognize the many challenges that our members face when they make their pledge commitments. Families have moved, we have more single individuals and single-parent families, we have experienced the death of long-time parishioners, and many young families struggle with their daily life expenses. Our members are as generous as possible and truly enhance and enrich St. Augustine with time, talent and treasure.

With that in mind, we strive to look at responsible stewardship as broader than just the annual pledge drive. In an effort to take a more holistic view of stewardship, our vestry is studying a year-round approach to stewardship that would include more emphasis on time, talent and treasure—a season of raising pledges, a season of sharing talents, a season of giving time—moving through the seasons of the liturgical calendar.

Responsible stewardship also includes planning for future debt management and a balanced budget. We have been blessed with a beautiful building and accept the responsibility of our vision and mission and the ways in which we can serve our members and the broader community. Being responsible stewards is part of that effort.

We currently have no program for planned and legacy giving, which is another way to ensure responsible stewardship. However, our goal is to look at ways in which we can implement a program of planned and legacy giving.

“Stewardship is a joyful act of time, talent and treasure for the sake of God’s world”
Sustaining the legacy

Our financial stability has been challenged by a number of factors: multiple moves; high mortgage; need for more growth; increasing operating expenses and aging population and attrition.

The number of pledgers and pledge income has fluctuated with each move. Our core members have been committed in supporting the church in pledges and fundraising efforts. We have a dedicated Budget Committee and treasurer which are both committed and experienced.

Constructing our first church building was a leap of faith. With it came the challenges of meeting the mortgage and increased and unexpected expenses. Our members have been generous to the best of their ability in helping to bridge the gap through commitments to capital campaigns and other fundraising.

Since the move to the new church building, our numbers have grown and pledges have increased, however not at the rate needed to meet current and future expenses. The vestry is in conversation with the Standing Committee regarding a potential sale of a portion of the property. Our intent is that a sale will relieve the burden of debt mortgage and allow us to move forward in our ministries. We welcome a rector who will engage this process as well as work creatively with the vestry and the diocesan Standing Committee and other leaders to ease our debt burden and empower new ministry.

Future plans

Our church owns 6.5 acres of land at 1800 Wildcat Blvd. Our building and parking lot occupy 2 acres. The remaining 4.5 acres are undeveloped. We owe $1,239,691 on this property. Annual loan payments of $101,237 are currently made from a capital fund established in 2013 with contributions from our congregation. This fund will be depleted in early 2022. Once our capital fund is paid out, unless we come up with a new source of funds, loan payments will come from our operating account, severely restricting funds available to support church operations.

Pledge & plate by age - FY 2018

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age Group</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Age 31-40</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Age 41-50</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Age 51 - 60</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Age 61 - 70</td>
<td>37%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Age 71 - 80</td>
<td>27%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Age 80 +</td>
<td>17%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Age 51 - 60</td>
<td>11%</td>
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Financial summary

A challenge we share with many Episcopal churches is the need to increase the size of our congregation. We also need to broaden and deepen participation in stewardship. Moving into our new church in December 2013, pledge and plate grew for two years and plateaued. Average Sunday Attendance followed a similar pattern, growing during the period of 2011–2016, and then declining. In 2018, our church hired a second priest. A grant from the Diocese in 2018-2019, included under other income, partially offset increased staffing costs.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Blessings</strong></th>
<th><strong>Challenges</strong></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Our congregation is warm, friendly and caring. All are welcome. There is a strong sense of inclusiveness. We support each other in times of trouble and loss.</td>
<td>We have a large concentration of members over age 60. The old guard is weary, and it is time to pass the baton. We hope to attract younger families from nearby neighborhoods who can become future leaders. We are challenged to build a more socially diverse congregation.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Building our own church has created a sense of legacy. Our multipurpose building can host up to 242 parishioners for services and provide space for large social gatherings, including dinners and concerts. It also allows us to host homeless families in need of a meal and a place to sleep.</td>
<td>Forty-four percent of our contributions come from members over age 70. Although office and classroom space are limited, we need to balance the need for additional classrooms and office space with the reality of our financial situation, working within our means.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Episcopal liturgy attracts many parishioners to our church. Our services are a blend of both high and low church. Periodically our priests chant the Prefaces to the appropriate season. Meaningful and inspiring sermons are important.</td>
<td>Some members would like to have an Episcopal Rite 1 service at least once a month and the use of processional and liturgical banners on high holy days. Others are concerned our traditional liturgy may be off-putting to new, younger members. We should consider offering a contemporary service to attract younger members.</td>
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<td>Adult formation is fulfilling. Our rector helps mentor and educate about the church. Controversial questions are welcomed and encouraged. The rector is never rattled by questions. Retreats are powerful and life-changing.</td>
<td>It is important to learn about theology and the church and how our belief systems have developed over the millennia, in addition to the Bible. Increased focus on small discussion groups, including opportunities for dinner gatherings, is an important way for us to share what is going on in our lives and pray for one another.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Our church has a strong community feeling toward children, particularly special needs children. The presence of children is embraced by all, with acceptance/tolerance for their happy noise in the church during services. Children serve as acolytes and have their own choir.</td>
<td>Additional education is needed for our children on the Episcopal tradition. It is also important to offer programs that will attract junior and senior high school students. We want to get our youth more involved in acolyting, greeting and ushering.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Being a Christian is not just about going to church on Sunday. It is also about supporting our many ministries; packing food for Rise for Hunger, providing meals and a place to sleep for the Gathering Inn’s homeless families, supporting a school in Haiti. Outreach activities are driven by lay leaders. Members are free to participate in whatever activities interest them.</td>
<td>Are fundraisers excessive? Is there too much emphasis on raising funds? Families on fixed income or with limited funds do the best they can to support the church. Pressure to contribute can be counterproductive. There is concern about burning out our core group of volunteers.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Due to our size, our priests know everyone. Our priests provide strong, spiritual leadership.</td>
<td>Our rector needs strong fiscal management skills and the ability to work with our vestry. Better balance of management responsibility between the rector and the vestry is needed. More open communication between leadership and members of the congregation is very important.</td>
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Openness. Gentleness. Intelligence. I would like to see someone with strong interpersonal skills who is also very intellectually engaged with their faith.

Compassion, sense of humor, maturity, dedication.

Compassionate. Good listener. Growth in membership planning a must.

Being dynamic and growing the church. Being inclusive of all and wanting to be a part of the community of St. Augustine.

Welcoming of children, especially all their noises and needs.

Able to connect with all age groups at our church, is family oriented and is looking for a congregation of people who truly care about each other.

The ability to respect and enhance the existing culture at St. Augustine. Really wants to be here, doesn’t see this placement as a short stop as they climb the liturgical ladder. Great preaching skills - meaningful, short sermons.

Relatable, and able to connect with the congregation.

Easy to talk to and listen to. Can relate lessons to today’s world and personal experience. Is relatable and personable.

Ability to lead the lay leadership in service to the congregation and manage the expectations and self-interests of not only him or herself but of the lay leadership and individual members of the church as well.

Open to new ideas. Visionary and/or encourages creativity, out of the box thinking. Choose good leaders and let the leader lead.
It began with a dream...
the dream became a reality...

The culture of St. Augustine is anchored in being open to trying new ideas and programs as our church community and the community around us continue to change. We are committed to who we are becoming and to the changes that keep us vibrant and strong. The Holy Spirit will continue to lead us!

As we look to the future, our primary goal is to ensure financial stability, to continue to offer beautiful music and worship, to fund programs for Christian formation for all ages and to continue and add to our many outreach projects.

The commitment to being God’s love in the world has kept this church on course through the tough times and the good times. Coming together to worship in the Episcopal tradition and reaching out to serve our neighbors near and far are the things that have shaped this community of faith over the years. We are followers of Jesus. Our devotion to God, our love of God and our service to our neighbors…these represent the legacy of St. Augustine.

We invite the rector who answers our call to join us on this journey! Our hope is that in these pages, that calling will resonate clearly in the heart and mind of our future rector.

A safe place for people seeking God