

ST. AUGUSTINE'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

EVERYBODY, EVERYBODY, EVERYBODY



Our Congregation: Caring, open and progressive community of faith on the North Shore of Chicago

We are an involved community with numerous ministries and opportunities for outreach, fellowship, formation and worship. In any given week, our parishioners are busy preparing and delivering meals to those in need; studying issues of racial justice and equality; serving food at our partner soup kitchen or engaging in quiet, unseen ministries. Our members describe our congregation as: welcoming/social/friendly; caring; socially responsible; involved/does; inclusive; open; musical; progressive; committed; diverse; communal; “a family.” The strength we have from our unity of faith empowers us and nurtures our relationship with Jesus Christ.

Our Liturgy: Grounded in tradition, yet flexible and forward-looking

Sunday worship at St. Augustine’s begins at 9:30 am when the whole community gathers and the full participation and energy of children and youth enrich us all. Throughout the year we also celebrate Eucharist at 7:00 am Friday mornings in our Chapel, followed by breakfast at a local diner. In summertime, in addition to holding our traditional 9:30 am service, many opt to gather for Sandy Mass on the Grass at 8 am, overlooking Lake Michigan. This is a casual celebration of the Eucharist with lawn chairs, bike helmets and children in swimsuits ready to hit the sand and waves. The parish’s liturgical style is rich, thoughtful and colorful without being too elaborate. We have a lovely collection of liturgical vestments and matching falls, and a dedicated Altar Guild that prepares and preserves them for us. Sunday worship generally follows Rite II of the Book of Common Prayer and is enhanced by active participation of lay people of all ages in worship ministries. We are open to meaningful liturgical experimentation that deepens our worship experience, while being fully rooted in the Episcopal tradition. Our celebration of the Eucharist with an open Communion is both at the core of our worship experience and a weekly living proclamation of our spirit of “everybody, everybody, everybody!” being welcomed to the Table.

Our Mission: Invite, Connect, Equip and Send

St. Augustine’s strives to invite people into our midst, connect with God and with each other, equip ourselves as disciples, and ask God to send us out to share Christ’s mission of peace, justice and service in the world. We welcome “everybody, everybody, everybody,” whether regular churchgoers or people who haven’t crossed the threshold for a long time. We make room for believers, skeptics or the curious and invite people to explore what faith means to them. We celebrate diversity and want to be a home for all of God’s children, regardless of race, gender, sexual orientation, marital status, physical and mental ability, age, political views, economic circumstances or any other human quality that makes us all unique.

Music at St. A's: Those who sing, pray twice



Music is highly valued at St. Augustine's. Every Sunday during the program year, our worship is enriched by our all-volunteer, intergenerational choir, our 21-rank Möller organ, a Steinway piano, and on occasion, a single-manual harpsichord. Anyone, regardless of skill level, is welcome to join our choir. The choir's love of music and dedication is witnessed each Sunday as they

lead the congregation in hymns, psalms and liturgical music and grace us with an anthem during the offertory. In addition to the 1982 Hymnal, we use varied musical selections with influences from across the globe to celebrate the life of Jesus. St. A's is also home to many talented parishioners who share their musical gifts through voice and instrumental skill. During Lent, the organ is silenced, and music is a cappella or accompanied by piano. On Easter Sunday, the organ returns along with a full complement of guest brass musicians for a joyous and moving celebration of our Lord's Resurrection. In Advent, we sometimes gather for a "hymn-sing", or go Christmas caroling to parishioners' homes.

Our Outreach: Love our neighbors, share our gifts

We are proud of our outreach programs through which we witness our faith by reaching out to neighborhoods, our villages and towns, and our world. We are among a small percentage of churches which designate a significant amount of operating funds to outreach. Many parishioners have expressed how



[Click here to visit our outreach page](#)

much more meaningful their pledge is to them for this reason. We distribute these funds to other organizations and ministries to further social and spiritual needs that exist beyond our walls. The outreach ministries we fund must be championed by a St. A's parishioner. The St. A's Champion shares the work of the ministry throughout the year and announces opportunities for the entire parish to be involved.

In 2009, we were blessed to become one of 24 founding parishes working to help families transition out of homelessness on the North Shore. The mission of this network, Family Promise of Chicago North Shore, is to help families achieve sustainable independence. Several weeks of the year, St. A's welcomes temporarily homeless families to stay overnight in our church. Parishioner volunteers offer meals, encouragement, and fellowship and serve as overnight hosts providing hospitality and refuge to our guests.

Our parish is involved in many other outreach ministries in the community. We facilitate a wide variety of opportunities for parishioners to express their faith through active ministry. We encourage and support prayers, hands-on efforts and financial assistance in addressing the needs of others. We always strive to spread God's word and love in all we do.

Fellowship and Celebration: Worship and Friendship go hand in hand

St. Augustine's parishioners have a long and beloved history of incorporating fellowship with our worship practices. Coffee hour after worship during the program year, Bagels on the Beach and Lemonade on the Lawn in summer are regular occasions where we catch up with each other and welcome newcomers, who are encouraged to use a big red mug so we can recognize and introduce ourselves to them. This is a church that loves to break bread together. We have ongoing events through the year to provide intergenerational involvement. Our tradition of hospitality includes hosting wedding receptions, baptism celebrations and funeral luncheons. All are lovingly organized and prepared by members of the congregation. Recently, we started a Cottage Group ministry which allows small groups of parishioners to meet regularly in a host's home for a meal and fellowship.



Formation at St. A's: Strengthening our faith, guiding our future

Children worship at 9:30 am with their families. All children are invited to Children's Chapel, a separate prayer and discussion of the gospel reading during the sermon and prayers of the people. Children return to the service during the Peace to continue worship with the larger congregation. Immediately after receiving Holy Communion, the children and youth attend Church School. Through our Godly Play (ages 3-7) and Godly Quest (grades 2-5) programs, children are provided a language of faith through parables, sacred stories, silence and more. Feasting on the Word is a program for our tweens and teens allowing them to explore the life of Jesus by engaging in the scripture read in church every Sunday. Adults are enriched through a deep exploration of various topics each month. In addition to our Sunday offerings, Equipping the Saints offers members the opportunity to live the call of our Baptismal Covenant to "persevere in resisting evil," especially in the context of racism. Further education is available through our Education for Ministry offering.



Our Future: Growth and Formation

Our future will hold many challenges and many successes. Our parish believes we should be a beacon for our community, reaching new people and incorporating them into the life of the church. We will work to provide more opportunities for Christian education and spiritual formation at every stage of life. And we will use these tools and resources to work as advocates for social and institutional change so our society might better reflect the values of the kingdom of God.



During small group discussion opportunities in the past few months, our congregation has expressed the following desires:

- Increased development of education and Christian Formation across all age groups
- Continued excellent and meaningful preaching
- Growing our congregation by increasing families as well as increasing the diversity of our members
- Achieve a sustainable financial setting to accomplish all of our goals

Our Next Rector: Dynamic preacher, pastoral, committed to formation

- Will inspire us with the ability to inspire us to live by God's word through sermons that connect us via current events and our everyday lives
- Will develop a vision and will possess the ability to empower and guide our parish to realize that vision
- Will show empathy and care for all persons in time of need
- Will deepen our understanding of our faith, form character and equip members with new skills
- Will have the capacity to lead our congregation through challenges and change
- Will manage our operations, facilities, finances and staff with efficiency and care
- Will need to show financial leadership as we grow our congregation and the stewardship required to achieve our goals.



Our Church History: Blessed by the vision and generosity of past generations



As the community of Wilmette was incorporated following the Great Chicago Fire of 1871, a few Episcopal families began worshipping in their homes, continuing the faith and practice they brought from their Chicago parishes. Twenty years later, there were enough members to form a congregation. On November 12, 1893, they decided upon the name "St. Augustine's

Episcopal Church" in honor of Augustine, the Bishop of Hippo. Following a fire, the present Tudor style church was built in the late 1940's. It was followed by additions in the 1950's of Puhlman Hall, the lounge, the kitchen and church offices. Later, the rectory, the church school wing, the Lady Chapel and the sacristy were built. St. Augustine's was one of the first churches in the diocese to remodel its sanctuary and place the altar in open view in front of the choir. Our columbarium, built and consecrated in 1974 and restored in 2002, and the adjacent garden is a sacred and contemplative space in which many of our parishioners are buried. Only a few years after the Episcopal Church approved the ordination of women in 1976, St. Augustine's sponsored one of the diocese's first female candidates. Several women priests have served at St. Augustine's since the early 1980's and the parish has also welcomed several gay priests; their leadership has enriched our community and increased our awareness of and participation in LGBTQ rights and activities.

The Village of Wilmette



Wilmette is a beautiful and lively community comprising many gracious neighborhoods and is home to a rich mix of races, religions and levels of income. Based on the 2010 census, Wilmette has about 9,750 households and a population of 27,087. Although the majority of Wilmette residents are Caucasian,

the village has seen a changing demographic over the past ten years, with families from all races joining the community. Sixteen miles north of Chicago, the village extends approximately five miles west from the Lake Michigan shore and is approximately one mile wide. Serving Wilmette's many commuters are two train lines. In downtown Wilmette, the Union Pacific North Line serves stops between Downtown Chicago and Kenosha, Wisconsin. Wilmette residents can also reach many locations in Chicago by taking the Chicago Transit Authority trains from the Linden Avenue terminus of the system's Purple Line.

Wilmette is a community that values education as evidenced by the high quality of public education available to its residents. Wilmette has two separate elementary school districts, Wilmette District 39 and Avoca District 37. Both districts provide excellent services and students that attend Wilmette Public Schools consistently score well above state and national levels on achievement tests. Both elementary districts feed into New Trier High School. One of the top schools in the country, New Trier has two campuses; the freshman campus in Northfield and a second older campus in Winnetka that serves sophomores, juniors and seniors. Ninety-eight percent of students who graduate from New Trier High School are accepted in four-year colleges.

Community Links:

The Episcopal Diocese of Chicago
The Village of Wilmette
Wilmette Park District
Wilmette Public Schools
New Trier High School
Metra Rail (UP North Line)
Chicago Transit Authority

Nearby Attractions:

Ravinia Festival Park
Baha'i Temple
Chicago Botanic Gardens
Northwestern University
The Illinois Holocaust Museum
Forest Preserves of Cook County

Worship Services:

Sunday Eucharist:
8 a.m. Sandy Mass at Gillson Park
(summertime only)

9:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist in the church

Friday Eucharist:
7 a.m. in the chapel

Contact Information:

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Financial Information

St. Augustine's 2019 Operating Budget

of Pledges 105

St. Augustine's Operating Revenues

Recurring Revenue	
2019 Pledged Income	\$ 346,397
Donations/Open Plate	\$ 11,500
Rose Hall Rent and Utilities	\$ 38,876
User Gifts/Building Use	\$ 2,640
Income From Endowment Fund	\$ 40,927
Sub-Total Recurring Revenue	\$ 440,340
Non-Recurring Revenue	
Past Pledges	\$ 10,000
Income from Special Funds	\$ 1,000
Bequest Excess (Market Gains Only)	\$ 28,000
Income from Curate Compensation Fund	\$ 55,400
Previous Year's Excess	\$ 700
Sub-Total Non-Recurring Revenue	\$ 95,100
Total Revenue	\$ 535,440

St. Augustine's Operating Expenses

Clergy	\$ 219,793
Administration & Accounting Staffing	\$ 43,544
Administration Costs	\$ 29,534
Music Staffing & Costs	\$ 38,450
Education Costs	\$ 8,714
Parish Development Costs	\$ 14,700
Physical Plant Staffing	\$ 29,107
Physical Plant Costs	\$ 71,898
Diocesan Pledge	\$ 56,700
Christian Outreach Commission	\$ 23,000
Total Expenses	\$ 535,440

Net Operating Surplus/Deficit \$ -

The Rectory

The rectory is a two-story-and-full basement, colonial residence constructed in 1954. The original house had four bedrooms. In 1974, a two-story addition was constructed, adding a family room on the first floor and a fifth bedroom above. The rectory has central air-conditioning (added in 1985) and contains approximately 2,600 square feet of living area, plus 1,000 square feet of high-ceilinged basement and a 192-square-foot covered screen porch. The first floor consists of a living room with fireplace, dining room, den, kitchen, powder room, and family room off the kitchen. The second floor has five bedrooms and two full baths. There is a detached two-car garage and a fenced in backyard. Total lot size of the rectory is approximately 12,000 square feet.

