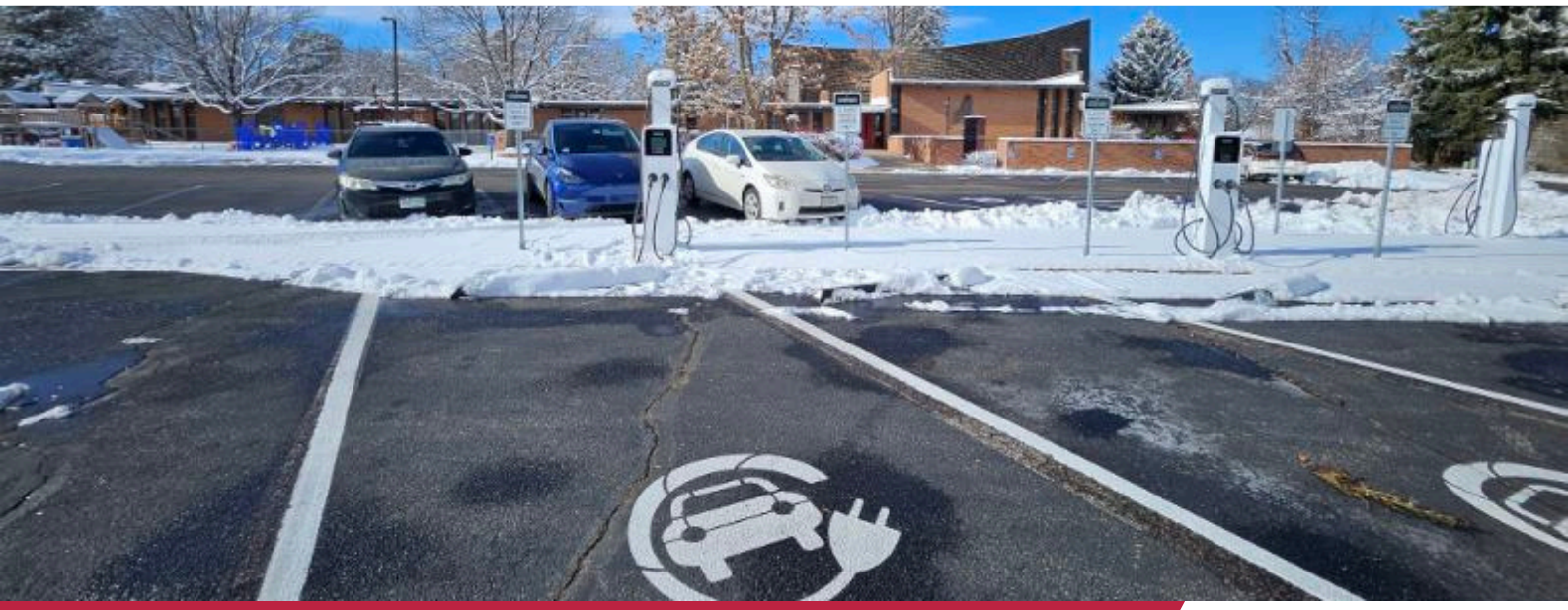
DRIVE CLEAN COLORADO



Removing Barriers to Community EV Charging Through Turn-Key Solutions

Introduction

As electric vehicle (EV) adoption accelerates, the need for accessible charging infrastructure in every community has increased. The lack of EV charging can be an inconvenience for residents, making the need to meet this demand important to continue EV adoption. While the demand is clear, the high upfront costs, maintenance, and financial risk of installation are major barriers. Colorado is actively helping to support EV infrastructure through essential state and local incentives that bridge the cost gap for these expensive projects.

Enertech and St. Luke's Episcopal Church have partnered to demonstrate what public EV charging can achieve in Northern Colorado. More than a convenience, the chargers at St. Luke's are delivering real value—drawing in new visitors, strengthening community ties, and putting sustainability into visible, everyday practice. Through innovative partnerships and turnkey solutions that transfer financial and maintenance responsibilities to trusted third parties, expanding EV charging is no longer a future ambition—it's an accessible, working reality.

St. Luke's Episcopal Church's Mission to Energy Efficiency

For St. Luke's Episcopal Church in Fort Collins, energy efficiency is more than a practical goal - it's a spiritual calling. Parishioner Susan Gregor, Head of the Creation Care Team, and Anne Rollins, Parishioner Administrator, shared how their congregation is working toward a vision of a fully energy efficient campus, free from fossil fuels and striving for net-zero carbon neutrality. The Creation Care Team leads this effort, blending sustainability projects with spiritual education.

Working with representatives from the City of Fort Collins and Colorado State University, St. Luke's conducted a visioning session where they walked through the church to identify ways they could save energy and help the environment. Additionally, through determination and community support, the church completed an energy audit funded by a parish fundraiser - a key step in advancing their sustainability journey. Through these crucial initiatives, EV charging stations emerged as a priority on St. Luke's wish list - though initially they seemed financially out of reach. Compared to other pressing upgrades like a new energy efficient boiler (now saving the church hundreds of dollars), a replacement oven, or solar panels, EV charging seemed like a longer-term aspiration rather than an immediate possibility.

Despite this, they still recognized the importance of having a charging station with Susan owning an EV herself. They emphasized how charging infrastructure fits naturally into their broader mission. By investing in clean transportation alongside energy efficient systems, St. Luke's is living out its values and demonstrating how faith communities can lead by example in the transition to a sustainable future. Learn more about the Creation Care Team here.

Enertech: A Turn-Key Solution to EV Charging

Implementing a "turn-key" solution for EV charging means a trusted third-party provides a charging station(s) ready to use to property owners while managing the complex technical and reporting aspects of owning the stations. Enertech has built its reputation on delivering comprehensive turn-key solutions, managing every step of a project from design and permitting, installation, maintenance, and reporting. This model is essential to community organizations with limited capacity or who lack the technical expertise as it removes the financial and logistical headaches for organizations, shifting the burden to a trusted partner and making clean transportation infrastructure far more accessible.

Enertech's commitment to community-focused energy innovation is rooted in a long-standing legacy of excellence right here in Colorado with over 15 years of experience. Enertech has a consistent track record of winning top-tier industry and community-focused awards that recognize their leadership in advancing energy efficient and sustainable solutions. They have demonstrated years of consistency in their contributions to Colorado's sustainable infrastructure, receiving multiple local utility provider awards. Most recently they were recognized by Platte River Power Authority (PRPA) - Efficiency Works, for their leadership in 2025 as a Charge Ahead Champion by completing ten Level 2 EV charging station installations totaling to 56 charging ports throughout Fort Collins and Loveland alone (with St. Lukes being one of the locations) through Efficiency Works EV charging station rebate program. This does not include projects they have in other utilities across the state with them notably having over 200 charging stations under development currently.

Beyond their technical expertise in EV charging in general and providing turn-key solutions, Enertech's success is driven by their deep understanding of the Colorado incentive landscape. They recognize the importance of EV charging station grants and rebate programs offered through the state and local utilities, helping to connect their projects to vital financial opportunities. EV charging station programs like local utilities EV rebate programs including PRPA's Efficiency Works, Xcel Energy's, or Poudre Valley REA's, as well as critical state funding through the Colorado Energy Office like the Charge Ahead Colorado grant, all of which help make EV charging station installations more affordable. By leveraging these programs, Enertech ensures that EV charging station installations remain financially viable and high-performing for their partners.

Their Crucial Partnership: Making Dreams a Reality

When St. Luke's boiler broke in the middle of winter, the congregation rallied with coats and blankets until a capital campaign funded a new high-efficiency system. During that process, the church explored grant programs and invited several companies to look at their lighting and EV charging stations. Enertech stood out immediately. They identified a local community grant to cover LED lighting costs and then turned to EV charging, assuring the church: "We're going to make this so that it doesn't cost you anything."

That generosity and expertise cemented the partnership. As parishioners reflected, "We've been so happy with them - they were exceedingly generous." Enertech's ability to combine technical know-how with financial creativity made the vision of EV charging not just possible, but effortless.

Enertech installed 3 Autel AC Dual port charging stations with J1772 charging plugs at St. Luke's. The stations are open 24/7 and can provide up to 15.36 kW of charging capacity at $0.30/kWh, with no starting or idle fees and users only pay for the energy consumed. Most importantly, Enertech takes on the full responsibility of owning and operating the stations as well as all grant reporting requirements, billing, and monthly maintenance checks.

The installation at St. Lukes presented two major challenges that Enertech worked to solve with the church and the City of Fort Collins. First, the building was built in 1968, so the age of the site created barriers to the permitting process and their first proposed location for the stations required sidewalk modifications resulting in Enertech having back-and-forth discussions with the city and voluntarily proposing three different locations until a solution was found that avoided large construction costs. Second, to avoid costly electrical upgrades, Enertech utilized an already existing, underused transformer on the property that also allows the chargers to be on their own electrical bill. By handling site complexity including the permitting process and all installation including trenching of the parking lot and installing signage, as well as identifying a creative electrical solution, Enertech provided a true turn-key solution that alleviated a lot of technical expertise and capital investment from the church.

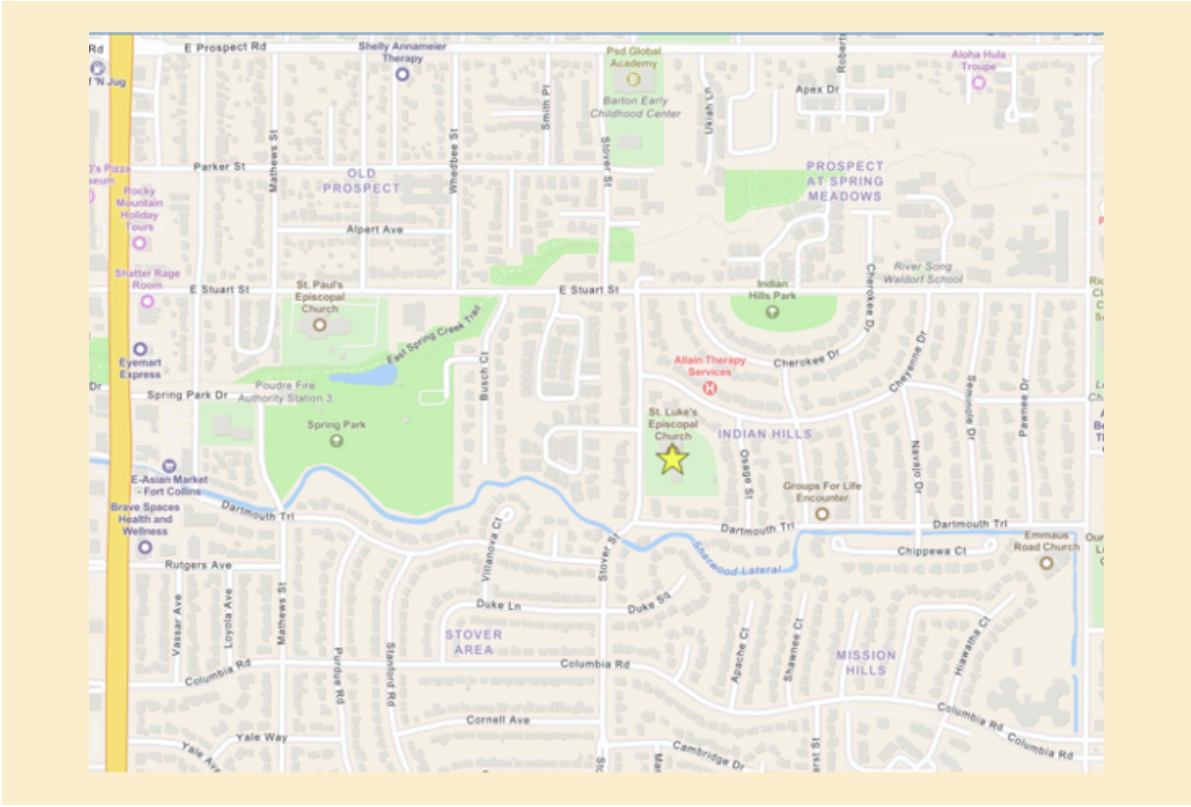
In addition to providing technical site advising and owning and operating the station, Enertech played a critical role in providing technical assistance to local EV charging station incentives including the Charge Ahead Colorado (CAC) Grant that provides funding for the installation of public chargers and Efficiency Works EV charging rebate. St. Luke's Church has their own internal grant writers that utilized Enertech's technical assistance while developing their CAC application such as helping describe the diverse communities the church building serves daily (like AA meetings or concerts) and state requirements to help ensure the application met the standards of the Colorado Energy Office. Furthermore, Enertech filled out all necessary forms and documentation for the Efficiency Works rebates, requiring only a final signature from the church. This collaboration helped maximize $57,000 upfront savings from the incentives while minimizing administrative burden.

Throughout the project and continued operation, Enertech honored their commitment to make this cost free for St. Luke. This included covering the expenses from installation through a combination of grants and incentives and taking in costs like permitting fees. The ongoing partnership is structured as a unique, risk-free revenue-sharing model based on a Net Revenue Split. Rather than the church paying an invoice, all operational costs are simply deducted from the earnings generated by the station. To determine the profit, Enertech takes the gross revenue and subtracts hard costs including software and network connectivity along with the cost of electricity. The resulting net revenue is then split between the church and Enertech, as evidenced by two checks received over the past couple of months. This structure guarantees that the church never has to write a check or lose money, even in months with lower usage and ensures the church benefits from the asset without bearing any financial risk or management burden.

> Enertech has been fantastic to work with. They gave us their word that it would be done...They support the cause of churches putting EV chargers in and supporting the environment that's important to them.
>
> - Susan

The Community Impact

The installation of EV chargers has already made a tangible difference for the church and its neighbors with over 400 individual charging sessions since it opened in April 2025 and usage is still increasing. The church highlighted various community impacts such as they opened a daycare about a year ago and as they were looking for a part-time daycare teacher, they spoke to a resident in Greeley who accepted the position after learning she could charge her EV while working at the daycare, noting charging infrastructure is scarce in Greeley. Additionally, neighbors and residents who don't attend the church have stopped by to thank them for the stations. One neighbor shared that she feels "safe" plugging in overnight and walking home. The church also hopes to get nearby apartment residents from multi-family housing units to benefit from charging infrastructure at a trusted nearby community location. Furthermore, church parishioners with EVs use the stations while attending church services, with one having an older EV with low range that requires him to charge his EV right away when he goes from the church to home and vice versa.



These stories demonstrate that the chargers are not only being used regularly but are also meeting critical needs across different groups — from employees and parishioners to neighbors and potential new community members. What began as a sustainability vision has quickly become a successful, well-utilized resource that strengthens connections, supports clean transportation, and proves the value of investing in EV infrastructure.

Acknowledgements

Drive Clean Colorado would like to thank Susan Gregor and Anne Rollins, as well as Enertech (Alex Patterson-Jones, Jarret Flack, and Roger Flack) for their leadership, collaboration, and willingness to share their experience. Enertech's and St. Lukes Episocial Church's insight helped highlight the importance of community focused charging and turn-key solutions.

The St. Lukes and Enertechs openness in sharing information and lessons learned makes it possible for other communities to move forward with greater confidence.

This case study was prepared by Drive Clean Colorado as part of the ReCharge program. ReCharge provides regional coordination and information to support electric vehicle charging across Colorado by sharing resources, lessons learned, and examples from communities implementing charging infrastructure.

Drive Clean Colorado has also worked with the Enertech through local engagement and technical assistance, including support provided separately through the Colorado Energy Office's ReCharge program.

IMPORTANT NOTE

This case study was prepared in good faith by Drive Clean Colorado to share an example of how electric vehicle charging has been implemented through turn-key solutions and at a trusted community location. The information presented is intended for informational purposes only and is not a recommendation, guarantee, or prediction of outcomes for any specific community.

Local conditions, costs, usage, and results may vary based on location, site selection, travel patterns, and operational decisions. Communities considering electric vehicle charging should evaluate their own needs, constraints, and goals and consult appropriate technical, financial, and legal resources before making decisions.