

NEWS RELEASE



Waterford at All Saints

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Waterford marks completion of extensive remodel with ceremony and ringing of original bell from All Saints School

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. — Waterford at All Saints will celebrate completion of a three-year interior and exterior remodel with a champagne reception Tuesday, Sept. 15 at 2:30 p.m.

Waterford is built on the grounds of the former All Saints School for girls, which was built in 1884. After operating the school for years, the Episcopal Diocese of South Dakota graduated its last class and closed the doors in 1986. Church leaders envisioned transforming the property into a retirement community, a dream that became reality when Touchmark purchased the property and opened Waterford in 1996.

Ten years later, in 2006, Waterford launched a \$5 million renovation that touched nearly every area of the retirement community.

“Since it opened in 1996, Waterford has been known as a premier retirement community in Sioux Falls,” says Executive Director Angie Rabon. “This renovation — along with our well-regarded services and staff — reinforces that position. We have remained true to our heritage as we have enhanced the community.”

The three-year project updated Waterford’s lobby, entry vestibule, reception desk, living room, dining rooms, fitness room, craft room, memory care and assisted living neighborhoods and garage elevator lobby. Earth-tone colors — yellow, tan, red, blue and green — are evident in the new wall paint, furnishings and carpeting.

The renovation also included an entire new exterior covering of cultured stone as well as an external insulation finish system.

Preserving history

When the Diocese sold the school, it stipulated that Waterford preserve the school’s historical significance. Waterford has honored this request, carefully polishing hardwood floors and woodwork, burnishing ornate doorknobs and retaining the chapel’s original organ and stained glass windows.

These windows have an interesting story: Millionaire John Astor purchased the windows from Tiffany’s in New York and gave them to Bishop William Hobart Hare, who built the school.

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They are believed to be the only Tiffany stained glass windows in South Dakota.

The outside of the Chapelwood building received special attention during this renovation. Waterford rebuilt the cupola and bell tower, refinished the bell itself, poured new concrete for the main stairs, replaced the north wooden stairway and rebuilt the main door and north porch. In addition, all roof dormers received a new coat of paint, the windows were given new trim and the chimneys were updated.

The bell has been inoperable for years. During this recent work, the bell was cleaned and a pulley system rigged so that the bell can be rung from the Chapelview courtyard.

During the Sept. 15 ceremony, a mantel clock will be returned to its original home of All Saints. The clock was discovered by history buff and collector Michael Dane, who lives in Yankton, South Dakota. Dane purchased the clock from a friend in New Jersey, who had purchased the clock from an estate sale in Philadelphia. The clock is inscribed with the All Saints School name and dated September 17, 1885.

Beck & Hofer Construction served as general contractor for the renovation, and Dave Pottraz, foreman, will be on hand during the celebration. James Dunwell of Touchmark Development & Construction was project manager and oversaw the myriad details.

Waterford offers a wide range of homes and lifestyle options. For more information, contact Waterford at (605) 335-1117 or visit WaterfordSiouxFalls.com.

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