

**Mayor's Award
Laine & Caleb Evenson
"Excellence in Restoration"
908 5th Street**



Laine and Caleb Evenson have received the 2017 Mayor's Award for "Excellence in Restoration" of the 908 5th Street property in the Brookings Central Historic District. This house, circa 1914, once served as the Baptist parsonage, where it is remembered as the site of various activities including weddings, funerals, and baptisms. In the 1920's it served as meeting place for college students. The residence is an excellent example of early Twentieth Century Craftsman-Bungalow with low-pitched gables, heavy brackets under the eaves, stucco – shingle exterior covering, and cast concrete porch.



Laine Evenson, owner of the property since 2014, observed that the house while well cared for; however, needed major structural work on the basement. The basement was shallow, thin walled and collected water. The Evensons hired Telekamp House Moving to raise the house and had a new basement constructed according to current building code. While this process is difficult

enough with a frame house, unimaginable problems are incurred with a stucco-sided structure with an attached cast concrete front entry. Unable to save the porch, the Evensons decided to reconstruct it as near as possible to the original. The work has been carefully documented from start to finish. The result is a remarkable achievement of impeccable quality. New cast concrete included porch and window boxes. Egress windows to the basement with sills constructed complementary to the



house are installed throughout. Stuccoing alone amounts to over 2000 square feet which was hand applied in three layers by master craftsmen. Only finishing details left are to install screens on the porch and painting.

The Evensons ask if anyone has any knowledge or other information about the house's history, please send a letter or stop by anytime. They are always curious to learn the history of the house.