



**Mayor's Award for Historic Preservation
St. Paul's Episcopal Church
"Stewardship"
Sixth Street & Eighth Avenue**

St. Paul's Episcopal Church has received the 2018 Mayor's Award for Historic Preservation in the category of "Stewardship" in the Central Residential Historic District. The Church celebrated the 100th anniversary of its church buildings on June 17th of this year. The celebration included tours of St. Paul's Episcopal Church and two other historic churches in the Central Residential Historic District. The St. Paul Episcopal Church community has lovingly cared for the church facilities for the past 100 years.

St. Paul's Episcopal Church and rectory were designed by Ralph Adams Cram, a nationally acclaimed ecclesiastical architect and leader in the Gothic Revival movement. He designed many churches across the country, but he is particularly well known as the architect in charge of the Cathedral of St. John the Divine in New York City. St. Paul's is built in the English Gothic style, with the exterior of contrasting "Old English" and "Colonial Brick."



St. Paul's Episcopal Church's cornerstone was laid in 1917 and construction completed in 1918. The rectory was finished the next year and was first occupied in 1920 and still serves as housing for the resident priest.

Keeping in mind the architectural heritage of the buildings, the southern addition to the church building known affectionately as "Charley Porch," was designed by Ward Whitman, a Sioux Falls architect and built in 1980 copied the lines of the Ralph Adams Cram church

perfectly, including the roof lines, the entry and window additions. The elevator was added in 2012 with advice from the National Trust for Historic Preservation. In 2012, St. Paul's received a Mayor's Award for the "historically sensitive addition" and also an ABLE Award for the church's commitment to accessibility.

St. Paul's has other unusual architectural and landscaping features, including two newer stained-glass windows, one honoring Native American culture designed by local artist Mary Egart and the other depicting a prairie scene with pasque flowers and butterflies inscribed with the words "faith, hope, and love." The interior of the church building has little changed from the original Ralph Cram design. Exterior plantings reflect a dedication to the natural Cathedral movement. The church's long-term project is to reduce the carbon footprint by converting lawn to urban wildlife habitat and contemplative gardens and patios where people can appreciate the wonders of nature. The church has received a "Gardening for Wildlife Certification" from the National Wildlife Federation for their plan to provide habitat for pollinators, butterflies and birds.

