



For Immediate Release
February 1, 2012

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Arbor Acres Combines the Arts and Sciences to Open Asbury Place *Assisted Living Building will Serve Up to 72 Residents*

Winston-Salem, NC – Arbor Acres United Methodist Retirement Community, Inc. opened today a \$24.8 million state of the art assisted living facility, named Asbury Place. Asbury Place will improve assisted living accommodations in order to provide the highest quality and most efficient care to those in need.

Asbury Place is unique because it embraces both the arts and technology to create an environment rich in amenities and beauty. “At first, assisted living emerged as a set of clinical services available only in sterile health care settings. Today we understand no one wants their lives defined by their collective set of needs and required services. And no one should be required to live in the soulless atmosphere of a clinical environment,” said David Piner, Arbor Acres president and CEO.

Instead, Asbury Place is designed to feed the senses, featuring a beautiful, eclectic collection of art. One piece, *The Counsel of Elders*, is a sculpture grouping held in the oval garden at the entrance to Asbury Place, expressing in rock the deepest themes of Arbor Acres’ mission. The work of North Carolina artist Carl Peverall, the sculpture features stone stacks suggestive of human forms, each of which represents one of the fundamental aspects of human wholeness. Arbor Acres builds its programming and fashions the way of life it offers in service to the physical, the social, the emotional, the mental, the vocational, and the spiritual needs and energies of its residents.



Another piece, by local Winston-Salem artist Wynn Tanner, is a happy 12-foot long mosaic featuring a “multi-generational, diverse group of joyful people who dance in their own funky way,” says Tanner.



Asbury Place is rich in technology, too:

- Asbury Place is a “green” building, reducing the building’s carbon footprint, using geothermal technology. By using the Earth’s relatively constant groundwater temperature of 55 degrees the geothermal system heats and cools the building. The project is one of the largest in the Triad.
- A Hearing Loop has been installed in the building’s auditorium, Robinson Hall, which provides a magnetic, wireless signal that is picked up by a hearing aid when it is set to ‘T’ (Telecoil) setting. The loop system consists of a microphone to pick up the spoken word; an amplifier which processes the signal, which is then sent through the final piece; the induction loop, a wire placed around the perimeter of a room to act as an antenna that radiates the magnetic signal to the hearing aid. When a hearing aid user selects the ‘T’ setting; he or she can pick up the sounds spoken into the PA system’s microphone instead of the hearing aid’s internal microphone. This results in improved speech understanding because the listener receives a clear signal without any background noise.
- A Hydroworx Therapy Pool underwater treadmill provides low-impact exercise and hydrotherapy. Underwater treadmills can be used for any kind of fitness training but in the hands of trained therapists they can really work wonders with many kinds of injury or joint related diseases. A recent study by the Sports Medicine Institute in Milwaukee found people recovering from total hip replacement found that using an underwater treadmill greatly improved recovery times.

Asbury Place was designed by Pennsylvania architects, Reece, Lower, Patrick & Scott, Ltd. with support from local firm Lambert Architecture, and was constructed by Landmark Builders of Winston-Salem. Its 117,522 square feet houses twelve studio apartments, 42 one-bedroom apartments and six two-bedroom apartments (convertible into two studio apartments), providing both for individuals and couples who have shared decades of life together. The apartments are fully handicap accessible and feature kitchenettes and walk-in closets. A dining room, activity centers, state of the art physical therapy center with a therapeutic pool, and beautiful outdoor areas encourage residents to enjoy social engagements. A spa-like assisted bathing area ensures that every resident who needs increased health care support will receive it in a setting designed to maximize quality of life.

The new construction was funded through a combination of cash reserves, philanthropic support, commercial borrowing and the issuance of tax-exempt bonds.

Arbor Acres United Methodist Retirement Community, Inc. is a continuing care retirement community (CCRC) offering a high quality continuum of service and care in independent living, assisted living, and skilled nursing care in its Fitzgerald Health Center. Established as a ministry of the Western North Carolina Conference of the United Methodist Church, Arbor Acres encourages the independent, active lifestyle of today's older adults. Arbor Acres commitment to excellence has led to full accreditation by the Continuing Care Accreditation Commission of Leading Age, formerly known as the American Association of Homes and Services for the Aging.

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