

## Stories Reemerge after Respite

In his new book about thriving churches, Rev. Wilcoxson points out that a thriving church encourages rest for both pastors and parishioners. I took him up on his advice, and some months ago began a respite from my "Spotlight" search for interesting tidbits about Crestwood. I'm refreshed now and, fortunately, Rev. Wilcoxson is open to my returning to my monthly or bi-weekly columns, so I'm back. The frequency of the articles is yet to be determined by potential writer's block.



For our many new members, or those who missed the columns, I was a member of Crestwood back in the "olden days." I left Lexington, and returned over thirty years later, right in the middle of Covid. Of course, I chose to reconnect with Crestwood, but found a very different church than when I left. So, with the help of many people, I set out to explore my new church home. In the process I found very interesting things that we see every week, but don't really "see." I learned our history. And I learned of so many things about which I knew nothing.

Do you know when and why a skilled church member made the large metal chalice outside the South entrance? Do you know what lurks in the locked basement where the youth used to meet? Are you aware that our sanctuary was designed as a ship by the architect? Where do the greeting cards come from that we pick up each week near the administration wing? The most amusing occurrence to me was the gradual finding of forgotten peace poles that have been standing watch around Crestwood in clear sight but unnoticed for years. They give us an insight into our history.

If you are interested in the large and small things I have uncovered in 57 articles, you can find them [here](#) on the Crestwood website, carefully ordered by date, and thoughtfully saved by Dave Miller. Much appreciation to him for his work and preservation.

Before, when I was tired, I was about out of ideas, but now I have dozens. I had never given any thought to our buses. Who uses them? Who takes care of them? We have a new children's library. I'd like to learn more. There is a Memory book going back to the founding of our church that has just been brought up to date. I want to spend some time with it. So many ideas.

But I may get serious and start with this new strategic planning that is going on. We are all hearing about it, but what is it? How will it affect us and the church? I'm meeting with Rev. Wilcoxson this week to get his take on where we are going. Stay tuned.

As before, I am eager to hear from you. Are there things you have wondered about concerning Crestwood? It's the smallest questions that have turned out to be the most interesting to explore. In the meanwhile, visit Crestwood's website and catch up to date on the history and personal tidbits I've uncovered that make Crestwood a truly interesting and meaningful place. Please contact me with your ideas at [gldholman@bellsouth.net](mailto:gldholman@bellsouth.net). Let's explore together.

The Spotlight will appear periodically on Thursdays in your email box.

