

### Lost No More



### Spotlight on Crestwood

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Signs. They seem to be everywhere in our world. But sometimes, when you need them, they are nowhere to be seen. Crestwood Facilities Manager Jim Cristi has been busy with our signs, correcting omissions, making sure people can figure out how to get from here to there in our complex church campus.

Each week over five hundred people walk through our church property. There is something a little confusing about the layout of the campus, although members finally acclimate themselves by entering through the same doorway each Sunday and imprinting their regular path to where they want to go. On the other hand, hundreds of people from the community need to find their way to the Mission Center for classes, meetings, and a variety of sports.

Most of our doors are kept locked for security purposes during the week. That causes the buzzer in the office to ring often as community people look for a way into the buildings. Explanations over the intercom can be complicated at times to direct newcomers to the correct entrance or room. Just saying "Mission Center" on community flyers hasn't given visitors the needed directions.

Jim said that, when he first came to Crestwood, he visited several large churches and met with their facility directors, getting ideas that would help at Crestwood. The need for more and different signs has been on his radar ever since. He has now finished his task. Today, anyone who can read can find their way to their destination without getting lost.

The new signs are tasteful and easily readable. Each entranceway is marked in large, clear letters. The South Entrance is announced in black above the portico. The North Entrance to our main building is marked with large white letters on the glass above the doors. The same is true for the Mission Center door, which announces the entrance for the Mission Center, Gymnasium, and Chalice Hall – the places visitors look for most often. Jim would like to see an awning over the door someday.

Inside, where I used to get turned around when I returned to Crestwood, there are now clear signs everywhere. Large, printed, gold lettering and directional arrows on a dark background point to the various areas. The gold tastefully matches the golden brick of our interior walls. In the South Entranceway a Disciple's chalice makes the sign welcoming and interesting. Really, it's all very well designed and attractive.

There is a change in the Mission Center signage, too. Some of it is still in the works. In the middle of each hall, hanging from the ceiling, is one of the letters, A, B, C, or D – indicating which hall it is. Soon permanent signs will be added to indicate what is on each wing. For example, on Hall A, the Library and Bradford classroom will be listed. The temporary signs will soon be replaced.

I have mentioned the Shelter Areas before, but, because they involve signs, I'll repeat myself. The Safety and Security Committee has designated windowless areas within the church to be used in case of emergency. Green signs with white lettering and a black tornado symbol indicate the Shelter Areas and have been added during Jim's tenure. Designated safety areas are the restrooms, a little area behind the Chancel, and the kitchen. If we have to run to shelter sometime, I have dibs on the kitchen!

Last, but not least, Jim walked me to the Crestwood sign at the corner of Bellefonte Drive and Glendover Road. The sign now proudly reads "Rev. Dr. Kory Wilcoxson." Jim said that Kory did not ask for the Dr. to be added to the sign when he earned his D.Min., "but he knocked himself out earning that degree, so he deserves the recognition."

All those new signs probably won't be noticed until someone is lost, but they actually add a great deal to Crestwood. The signs point out more than directions. They also tell us that we have dedicated staff watching and planning to help with our every need.

Let's continue to explore together. If you have ideas for future Spotlights, contact me, Gaye Holman at [gdholman@bellsouth.net](mailto:gdholman@bellsouth.net).



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