

Spotlight on Crestwood #55 FUNCH and SRO





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I kept reading about FUNCH in the Crestwood news bulletins, but I had no idea what it was. It didn't take a genius to figure out it meant "Fun Lunch," but what and for whom remained an unknown. It is advertised about once a month. I recently decided to show up and be surprised, but, just before the date, a picture of the group appeared in the Crest.

So, I wasn't surprised, but it was indeed a fun lunch.

While they may not like being characterized this way, it turned out to be about a dozen gray-haired ladies just like me. I fit right in and found them to be a warm, welcoming, interesting group of people. I understand that sometimes the group differs in age range and gender. In short, everyone is welcome.

We ate (everyone chipping in with a dish), talked, and then settled in for some cheerful rounds of Bingo. Prizes were small but were fun and nice. Actually, I don't know that first-hand, as I didn't get to take any of them home. Several times I could have won a prize for the least squares covered.

I was told FUNCH was started sometime in the period before COVID. At first a minister cooked for the gathering. Then they started going out to restaurants, but now they have settled into Fellowship Hall with each bringing pieces of a light lunch. Steph Wallace is the minister who organizes, advertises, and runs the wheel that spits out the winning letter/number combinations. She adds a lot of enthusiasm to the group. Although she fits the description of "gray-haired" lady, she proves that designation doesn't have to mean "old."

I got to know some people new to me, touched base with current friends, and felt very welcome. The group members say it is a caring group that becomes a nice social support. I can attest that anyone – age or gender – would feel welcome and would have a very fun lunch.

SRO

No one can say that the retired population is ignored or bored at Crestwood. Next to be mentioned is the series of SRO trips – Seniors, Retirees, and Others.

The group, which often fluctuates in participants, takes day trips around the area to places that are more fun to go with other people. It's really the perfect way to go – someone else planning, driving, and arranging. My kind of trip!

This Friday we are piling into the church bus and heading to Maysville and Washington, some of the earliest towns in Kentucky. I had never heard of Washington, but apparently it was once considered for the location of our state capitol. Once there, we are taking a trolley tour of Maysville (which sort of puzzles me, as it's such a small place – but apparently an historical tourist attraction these days). We will have time to wander around, visit one of the largest miniature museums in the US, and of course, eat lunch. Does anything happen at Crestwood without eating?

Patsy Anderson and Jeanette Knowles alternate months in planning and organizing the trips. Either Rev. Kory Wilcoxson or Student Associate Minister Steph Wallace drives the church van, so it's interesting sharing recreational time with our ministers.

In the past the group has visited diverse places like the Woodford Community Theatre and Blue Lick State Park. They have made two trips to Danville, visiting the Ephraim McDowell Museum, Constitution Square, and the Kentucky School for the Deaf on one and the glass factory on the second trip. In October they will be staying nearer home, touring Claiborne Farms.

There is often a small fee tied to the trips for admission to the sites, as well as a \$5 donation to Crestwood for gas. Restaurant lunches are handled individually.

Any adult is welcome to go along. Patsy said they tried to come up with a new name for the group so that it wouldn't appear to be just for seniors and retirees but couldn't come up with a good idea. So, the "others" in the name welcomes all adults, retired or not.

Patsy Anderson and Jeanette Knowles say they enjoy their roles organizing the SRO trips, but they beg for suggestions. They welcome ideas of places that would be interesting to visit. Give them a call.

And plan to come along to spend a day with interesting and involved church members, learning and seeing new things. I'm looking forward to this next trip.

If there is some area of the church you would like to know more about, please share your ideas with me. Let's explore together. Gaye Holman: gdholman@bellsouth.net.





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