



# Crumb Donors Story Time

## Editor's corner

Due to the hurricane, we have heard a lot of people blaming others for stuff lately. I have heard it refer to as the "blame game". Well, the Yo Buddy Gang here in Chattanooga don't want to do any blaming but instead we want to do some saying thank you and giving credit where credit is do. Life here in the Chattanooga Urban Ministries is always full of many daily challenges for our folks but by the grace of God and through the hard work of many good ministers, we are being blessed. Those blessings are coming our way because of some heroes known to us as **crumb donors**. You all deserve a lot of credit for helping our staff to be able to stand strong for Jesus. Your prayers, encouragement, monthly donations and your wide variety of support is making a difference for the better here. If you want some good news.....here it is. Our ministry here is growing. We are slowly gaining slightly in our funding. We are gaining new people. Our hope is growing. Our confidence is growing. Our witness of Jesus Christ is being empowered. This is all happening because of YOU. Yes, YOU our crumb donor. You truly are changing things. We have many battles ahead of us and probably more bad days than good days but the good days are growing. Our CRUMB DONORS ROCKS for Jesus and we say thank you. Please know you are deeply appreciated.

## Crumb Donors Rocks!!!!

IN THIS ISSUE: You will read an article from Otis Hardy. Otis & his wife Wynella have joined our church planting/ministry staff here in Chattanooga. Read about their excitement on page 5. You will also read articles from two young adults who want our crumb donors to know you are making a difference. Read their stories on pages 3 & 4. On page 6, you will discover the new hope you give to our kids through supplying us with school supplies, snacks & good adult mentors. Our participants & our hard working staff is so grateful to each of you. In this issue the message is CRUMB DONORS ROCKS!

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Chattanooga Urban  
Ministries Crumb Donors  
Newsletter  
September 2005 Edition

Edited by the  
Yo Buddy Gang

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### Special Notes:

- ☺ 20 baptisms to date
- ☺ Starting October 1st, Miss Faith is the Center's Pastor
- ☺ Updated web page at [www.crumbdonors.net](http://www.crumbdonors.net)
- ☺ More new crumb donors join our support family

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# Yo Buddy! (Chattanooga's way of Praising God)

**Yo Buddy** for Jessica Montague still being here in Chattanooga. **Yo Buddy** for pastor Jared turning 20. **Yo Buddy** for Faith Johnson becoming the Center Pastor in October. **Yo Buddy** for every crumb donor. **Yo Buddy** for Pastor Kenny Alcorn replanting the church on Ooltewah. **Yo Buddy** for 20 baptisms so far **Yo Buddy** for the Jim Spears family moving to Chattanooga. **Yo Buddy** for Otis & Wynella Hardy! **Yo Buddy** that Jacob Blakesley have done his 3 month church planting training here....Go Plant Detroit! **Yo Buddy** for the crumb donors who have made bigger donations during past two months...thank you!!! **Yo Buddy** for the two baptisms we had in September. **Yo Buddy** for new members Hannah & Carrie!!! **Yo Buddy** for getting new participants weekly. **Yo Buddy** for our tutoring program & good grades. **Yo Buddy** for the folks who support our ministry is many ways. **Yo Buddy** for the Community of Christ. **Yo Buddy** that our congregation is inner-racial & full of opportunities. **Yo Buddy** for our participants! **Yo Buddy** for God loving us so much that He sent His Only begotten Son Jesus. **Yo Buddy** for you. **Yo Buddy** for Jay & Diane Thomas and Jay building us new church benches. **Yo Buddy** for healing. **Yo Buddy** for Pastor Tom & Gwynne's ministry. **Yo Buddy** for all our many blessings of all sizes.

## **Thank you all for the mini miracles of the past two months...YO Buddy!!!**

The months of August & September have been two good months for our funding woes. Dues to all our crumb donors and to some who chose to be more generous than usual, our crumb donor account has increased slightly. These past two months has been the first time in more than two years that we have been able to take in more money than we have spent. YO BUDDY!!! This is one of those "mini miracles" that bring great encouragement to front line missionaries and ministry teams. Through our crumb donors and million people miracle effort, we have seen some folks demonstrating their true caring for our kids and this ministry. Thank you. Now with a "mini miracle" taking place these past two months, we need to keep the miracle growing and not let us back up. Please keep supporting us and invite others to join our crumb donor family. I wish each of you could look into the eyes of our kids and see their new hope that they have when we talk to them about many of you who surprise us with a little extra help every now and then. Our kids are all doing somewhat better in a variety of ways because of the hope of the gospel they are able to receive because of your ongoing & growing support. Thank you for all that you do in Jesus Name. Crumb Donors are for sure..."answers to our prayers". We will continue to pray and hope and believe...keep helping!!

## **Rocks "Boo" and Roses "Cheer"**

**Rocks for people who steal. Roses for people who shares generously to bless others.**  
**Rocks for Jacob leaving Chattanooga. Roses for Jacob going to Detroit to plant a church.**  
**Rocks to hurricanes. Roses for people who help others when they are needed.**  
**Rocks to those who think they are too good for church. Roses for the new folks at church.**  
**Rocks to mean words and foul language. Roses for word of kindness, love and encouragements.**  
**Rocks to our center having a need for so many repairs. Roses to having a center to worship in.**  
**Rocks to our center kitchen stove needing repairs. Roses for those who prepared food for us weekly.**  
**Rocks to liars. Roses for God's big big house being open to everybody and his forgiving grace.**  
**Rocks for so many people not knowing Jesus. Roses to those who witness and invite.**  
**Rocks for there being more homeless each month. Roses for those who open up their lives to others.**  
**Rocks for those who hear The Word and don't do anything. Roses to those who live The Word.**  
**Roses for all of those who generously give without expecting anything in return!!!**

## **A Young adult say “thank you” ....story of Jesus & Kenneth**

I wanted to take my turn in saying “**thank you**” to the crumb donors who sponsors this ministry. I am just in my 20’s but I am one of the veteran participants of this ministry. I was involved through cell group and kids bible club before the crumb donor opportunity came along. I have been blessed by this ministry for a decade. When I became a teenager, I decided to become a member of the Community of Christ and asked our pastor Jared Munson, also my friend, to baptize me. I am glad to be a part of this church.

During my life, I have survived being an unwanted child. My grandmother raised me and then she died. When my grandmother became deathly sick, I made the decision to quit school. I have went through tons of disappointments and heart breaks. I even went through my own time of turning my back on God. But through all of this, my church family have been there for me and supported me.

Just in case some of you are wondering if this ministry you are supporting monthly have any long term effect on its participants, I am here to tell you that I have been blessed by the ministry of Jesus offered by this church for more then ten years which is half my life. I was involved before we had the center. I have seen this ministry grow from a little kid bible club with less then 10 people involved to a successful city wide ministry with hundreds of participants. Because of this, I want to say thank you for helping us grow and for supporting us monthly. I am one of the several dozens of young people who have been blessed and changed for the better. My childhood and teenage years have been tough but this church family have never throw me away or given up on me. I have been alone all my life in many ways but God & this church has stood by me.

Well, I am now a young adult who met a girl. We have fell in love. We are engaged and planning a future together. I have shared with my fiancé’ that I want us to keep God in our life. I also shared with her that I want us to remain an active part of this ministry. She agrees. Yes, we are young and have baggage. But we have each other, God and this ministry which you support to make us strong.

I am still here a decade later and still being blessed by this ministry. I am trying to put away childish things and become a man. I work hard every day. I will confess that I do not make it to church every week but this church is my home. It will my family’s church home. I am not a very good writer but am trying to say “thank you” for keeping this ministry and my church family here and strong. You are helping God fill a giant hole in my soul. I am stronger because of this ministry being here and available. So if you ever begin to wonder if your crumb donation really matters, well it has, it is and it will continue to make a great difference in my life. It help me when I fall. It give me a light in my dark moments. It gives me strength to become a young adult and to want to keep God alive in my life. Yes you are making a difference and I say thank you. Keep getting it done for Jesus. There are many others who need to have this ministry here. Thank you again for stepping up to the plate and hitting a home run for God by being a crumb donor.

## **Crumb donors give us courage to say NO to temptation...story of Jesus and Sherry**

Leaving home is a big step in a girl's life. There are always challenges, opportunities, fears & temptations. It is even a bigger step for a girl who does not like being at home and cannot wait to leave a very bad environment. I love my family but the pressure there are almost too much to bear. I cry myself to sleep many nights. I would not have survived the last several years of my life if it was not for this ministry and this church. The best thing that ever happened to me so far is finding God and being called to be a servant in the Community of Christ.

I know that some of you who are crumb donors probably think about weather or not your gifts are making a difference here. Believe me, they are making a difference in more ways than you can imagine. You are helping so many lives become better. I am just one of them. I want to tell you about one way you made a difference.

Like I said before, I hate being at home. I want out of there so bad that I am so desperate that I would do "almost" anything to get out of that place. Recently, a guy that I was dating tried to convince me to move in with him and live with him. Many of my school friends told me to do it. Many young adults I know are living with their boyfriends or girlfriends. It does not seem to be that big of a deal to most people.

So I was thinking about it a lot. I was praying about it and trying to convince myself that God would understand. But one day at church, during our YO BUDDIES time (praising God), a letter was read from one of our crumb donors. In your letter, you said you did not really know none of us but you loved us. You said in your letter that your donations was given in hope that some people really was finding God and having the "courage to do the right thing."

Well, your letter hit me. As part of the Chattanooga Community of Christ, I know it does take faith and courage in Jesus to do the right thing. After that Yo Buddy moment, I just knew that moving in with a boyfriend was not the right thing for me to do. I am not saying it is not right for someone else, it just is not right for me. So I told my boyfriend no. He and his friends then began to make fun of me and call me a "goody two shoes" and stuff. I told them that God and this church was important to me. He said he just did not know why this church was so important because to him all churches were the same. He said we could move in together and go to another church but I explain to him that I love God and I love this church. No matter how many people make fun of me, I was not going to move in with a guy until we got married.

Well, this was the right thing for me to do. One of you crumb donors help me find the strength and the answer to my prayer. So you are making lots of difference by supporting us. By the way, I am far from a goody two shoes. I have my issues. But I do want to always try to do the right thing. This church will love me when I do the right thing and they also love me when I don't. But I want to please God. I know I miss the mark a lot but I am going to keep trying and I want to say thank you to our crumb donors. You keep trying to support our ministry and I will keep trying to do the right thing.

By the way, just in case you was wondering. I do have a new boyfriend who does not pressure me. Please pray for me because I still do not like my home environment and have to make some decisions soon. But it means a lot to me to know that you love us enough to support us. Thank you again. **CRUMB DONORS ROCKS!!!**

## Called to be a Crumb Donor.....By Otis Hardy

There was always a sense of compulsion, at times even a sense of violence, about God's call." Jeremiah described it "...like a burning fire shut up in my bones; I am weary with holding it in, and I cannot" (Jeremiah 20:9). The Apostle Paul avowed, "... woe to me if I do not proclaim the gospel!" (1 Corinthians 9:16). Those were the deep inner nudges of God's call to ministry in Chattanooga TN for Wynella and I. This call points neither to a map nor a guidebook, but to the ultimate guide. The emphasis wasn't on following a course but on responding to a voice—no schedule, no itinerary, no well-laid plans. We left our home in North Carolina and followed the voice of the one who made the call. We responded by walking by faith and not by sight. I am very thankful to our church for giving Wynella and I the opportunity to follow God's call to be part of a team to minister in Chattanooga. The Church has given us the chance to reach more people with the love of God than we ever could have if we were unwilling to look beyond ourselves. We have taken this step of faith, and I pray that God will reward us and use us to honor His name. We are called along side Jimmy Munson, Kenny Alcorn and many others in the Chattanooga area.

We attended our first meeting here in July, committing ourselves to prayer as the fundamental activity we would undertake in beginning this mission. Our reflection was "God, from the very first day of this journey, let our minds always be stayed on you and our hearts always be motivated by the right things." We are always in prayer. We have begun our efforts to fulfill this call by visiting, community building, networking with community leaders, inviting, and baptizing, and sharing of the core values of the church that would shape the entire life of our new brothers and sisters.

### **COACHING/ MENTOR**

*"The least of you will become a thousand,  
the smallest a mighty nation.  
I am the Lord; in its time I will do this swiftly." Isaiah 60:22*

Jimmy Munson, our "coach" vision our first year of our joining this team as future church planters, he has been a valuable asset in helping guide me along my way. His practical insights into where to place my time and energy and his experiential advice in how to lay the proper foundation for our future Church Planting effort have been invaluable. Jimmy's even keel and neutral perch have helped to keep me pressing in the right direction. Wynella and I have been committed from day 1 to do anything necessary to ensure the success of this venture, and we bear witness to God's call to Chattanooga. As we move into this new venture, I embrace the words the Apostle Paul used in greeting the Christians in Rome: "...God, **whom I serve with my whole heart** in preaching the gospel of His Son, is my witness..." It is with excitement, enthusiasm, and energy - with my whole heart that I respond to God's call for me here in Chattanooga.

### **Mentoring/Discipleship**

*"But commission Joshua, and encourage and strengthen him,  
for he will lead this people across and  
will cause them to inherit the land that you will see." Deuteronomy 3:28*

Each day we are sharing the love of Jesus with those around us. Whether it is through a formal discipling relationship in which we have a set agenda of material to cover each week or if it is discipling through just the time we spend at making new contacts at places like the car wash together. It is loving and caring for people - not materials and programs, That makes disciples.

### **Upcoming Home & Apartment Ministry/ Partnerships....possible future church plant**

The center will provide the food, and drinks for bible study and fellowship, we will grill hamburgers and hotdogs for all the people in and around the community who wished to take part. It will be such a blessing to see people of all denominations, ages, races and ethnic backgrounds coming together for one common goal, (serving and glorifying God). We have walked around the community and stopped and talked with people outside of their homes about who we are and we are strengthening our current church plants, but we are also making new contacts for a possible new church plant. It is an exciting beginning for us as we join this team of experienced church planters. We can begin to see God opening new doors in many places and we are excited.

We are called to be a community of hope, to consider and respond to issues based on the wisdom found in Scriptures and consistent with the best of our nation's founding ideals "life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness".

Thank you for your continued prayer and support of the work and ministries here in Chattanooga. We thank God for the blessings in the past and look forward to the challenges and blessings of the future. Without your help, there would not be a church here and plans to plant more churches, where the hard-core, and hard-living can experience the love of Christ. Wynella and I are glad to be called to be here in Chattanooga and **we need 500 more Crumb Donors to fulfill this mission. You too are called!!!**

2428 N. Chamberlain Ave. in  
Chattanooga  
Mailing address: 6309 Celtic Drive  
Chattanooga, TN 37416

Phone: Kenny Alcorn (pastor) 423-  
240-4490 or Jimmy Munson  
(outreach minister) 423-344-9858

Our victory lies within our  
invitation. **INVITE SOMEONE**



**Crumb Donors donate \$10 or more a month to support this ministry. Please remember to send your donation this month and every month. Invite someone to become a Crumb Donor. Send donations to the following address:**

**Crumb Donor**

**C/o Don Barber**

**1029 Cedar Creek Village Road**

**Mt. Juliet, Tennessee 37122**

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## **“Honor Roll Bound”**

It was tutoring night at the center, 13 year old Derrick bounces in the door. He was carrying his school progress report. He announces, "Look, I am **Honor Roll Bound**. Heck, I am not going to stop there. I am college bound. I am going to go to college just like Jared & Alvin." Well, this was great news and a demonstration of a new hope from one of our youth who use to get suspended from school often and hated attending school. But due to our crumb donors being willing to help supply this ministry with school supplies, tutors, and healthy food our kids are beginning to catch on fire with a new hope and a new dream. They are discovering they can be successful in school and possibly beat the streets. They are slowly catching a vision that they can have a better life. Through our crumb donors are kids have been exposed to college students from Graceland University who help them believe in themselves. Our kids are getting some help and are able to hand in completed school projects for the first time because of school supplies and tutoring help provided by our crumb donors. Our local staff are beginning to believe their hard work might not be in vain. Crumb donors.....if you wonder if your generous caring is really making a difference just read again Derrick's hope and determination.... **I am Honor Roll Bound**". For just your crumbs you are giving our kids a new hope that they Can & Will get honor roll; Can and Will graduate high school; Can and Will go to college; and can serve Jesus Christ as peaceful and loving witnesses of the good news of the real gospel. **CRUMB DONORS ROCKS**. Please help keep our kids "**Honor Roll Bound**". **God bless you all and keep smiling.**

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