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# Crumb Donors Story Time

Hello Crumb Donors! This is Jared again. **Our co-pastors** Craig Hidy & Keith Dutton are updating our web page so if you have not check it out lately, please do so at **[www.crumbdonors.net](http://www.crumbdonors.net)**. Please let us know what you think of it.

On a **personal note**, I've appreciated the recent cards, emails, a few visits and phone calls from many of you offering support for me since our last issue. Your expressions of support for my challenges of a learning disability and with depression is helpful. Since being suspended from Graceland some of my "Jesus fire" (the Spirit of God) within me is not burning as fully as it once did and my fear of failing is larger than it should be. But I have a good support group and I am facing my fears. I know failure is never a big deal unless you surrender to it and I have no plans for surrendering. I want you to know your prayers and support is appreciated. I want to share that I am happily enrolled at the University of Tennessee Chattanooga (UTC) and will be attending full time there in May probably majoring in criminal justice. YO BUDDY!!! Enough about me.

The ministry here in Chattanooga continues to reach **new lives weekly**. New folks come into this ministry each week. Craig & Keith continues to work very hard as our missionary pastors. During February, we began some new ministries in two different locations in North Georgia. In March, we will be trying to launch some new ministry in Cleveland, TN area. The work is growing into several new neighborhoods also. Your ongoing generous support and prayers are very important to our future. Thank you for always being here for us. Our crumb donors are Jesus' heroes for sure!!!

You each are invited to our **2007 Memorial Day Reunion** to be held Friday—Monday, May 25-28. Please plan on attending!!!

***In this issue:*** You will read two more reflections from **Graceland Winter Term students**. You will also read a story from **one of our Chattanooga parents** about his experience with a neighbor and his view about your ongoing support. On the next page, instead of our regular Yo Buddies or rocks & roses, we have reprinted a **special edition letter** which was mailed to you earlier this month about a **special fund raiser** being done by the Community of Christ to help the Chattanooga ministries. *We are so grateful to Apostle Linda Booth for leading this special fund raising effort.*

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Chattanooga Urban  
Ministries Crumb  
Donors Newsletter

February 2007 Edition

Edited by the  
Yo Buddy Gang

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## Special Notes:

- ☺ Special guests this month included Megan Pierce & parents; Peter & Kris Judd; Steve Smith along with Joe, Josh & Matt.
- ☺ Memorial Day Weekend Reunion 2007 is Friday—Monday, May 25– 28. Theme: Walkin' It Out with Jesus!

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<a href="http://www.crumbdonors.net">www.crumbdonors.net</a>	

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# Reprinted from Special Edition (in case you miss it)

## Great News!

The Community of Christ is joining with Crumb Donors to improve the ministry of Chattanooga Urban Mission. How?

During March's World Conference, we will join in kicking off a special fund raiser to help us improve and expand our facilities. Those of you who have seen our building know that this is a giant step forward for our future!

Your donations have, and will, continue to keep our ministry operating and growing. Our testimony is that Crumb Donors have kept this ministry alive and growing through your generous monthly donations. This special fund raiser by the Community of Christ is for improving our facilities. The cost of daily programming and ministries will continue to rely on your generous crumbs monthly. Please hear this: **we still need our crumb donors.**

Together with this special fund raiser and your ongoing support, the Chattanooga Urban Ministries can now grow and move forward better than ever. **This is our great news.**

We hope you join in our excitement that with your continued support for our programming costs and this special fund raiser of the Community of Christ, things are getting better for us.

If any of our crumb donors want to also join in this special fund raiser, more information about it will be forthcoming in future newsletters. Your continued support is going to make this special fund raiser an even greater blessing to our Chattanooga Kids. God bless you and keep smiling!!!

The Community  
Jared Munson, Crumb Donors Newsletter editor  
Apostle Linda Booth, Community of Christ

**A Testimony to the Community of Christ Chattanooga Congregation.  
By Jurgen Heijdenrijk**

*(a 2007 Graceland University Winter Term student)*

As long as I can remember, I have felt a strong calling to devote my life to ministry. Therefore, I have always tried to learn more about the different aspects of ministry, so that the ministry I provide will be to the best of my abilities. There clearly are many aspects to ministry that I have yet to learn more about. The Chattanooga community has helped me tremendously with this learning process. It has by far exceeded every other learning experience in my life. This community has taught me to better understand the most important part of ministry, the part that makes ministry real. It is a part of ministry that can only be taught through the act of ministry itself, and the experience of ministers that have mastered it, which the ministers in Chattanooga most definitely have. The Chattanooga community is the purest and most real community that I have encountered in my life so far. Throughout my life I have been able to visit many Community of Christ congregations, which has been a great blessing. The type of ministry provided at the Chattanooga community, unfortunately, is very unique among Community of Christ congregations in the Western World. Out of all the congregations I have visited, which are mostly located in the United States and Western Europe, the Chattanooga congregation is far ahead in its ministry and outreach efforts. The Chattanooga congregation is, and should much more strongly be recognized as a great example to other communities, not only within the Community of Christ, but the entire Western World. There is much that could be said of the ministry provided at this congregation, but for me, it can be summed up in one phrase; Real people, real ministry, real community.

**What the Gospel is Truly About by Jeremy Crowe**  
*(a 2007 Graceland Winter Term Student)*

*“And yet I consider my life worth nothing to me, if only I may finish the race and complete the task the Lord Jesus has given me – the task of testifying to the gospel of God’s grace.”*

This is my favorite scripture in the Bible, and the one that I have tried to lead my life by the last few years. Ever since I had finally accepted Jesus, when I was 16, I have been searching for an opportunity to lay my life aside in pursuit of giving the gospel to those in need. The opportunity arose, during a hands-on winter term course in the heart of Chattanooga, Tennessee.

From day 1, me and my colleagues were thrown right into the mix of things and the ministry began. Never before, have I felt the love of God working so strongly. Many of these youth came from horrible scenarios that only seem to exist in a book or movie, yet have a glow in their eyes that reflect love and hope. The church was a safe environment where they did not have a care in the world, which was a drastic change from life outside those walls.

The ministers make sacrifices everyday to ensure that God’s spirit may burn within the kids, and though maybe only an ember, it can eventually ignite a flame that can engulf the entire community (figuratively speaking). This family has not only taken those whom other churches have cast away with open arms, but has removed what irritates me the most about the majority of churches and that is hypocrisy. The so-called Christians who only live the Christian life style on Sunday mornings and have the nerve to deem anyone unworthy to enter God’s house.

Anytime there is not a service, the ministers will visit homes and work-places to offer anything they can. Now, there is no guarantee that these kids will have splendid lives or happy endings, but they will have the hope of Jesus Christ. I have had the opportunity to give hope to the hopeless and love to those who feel unloved. That is what the gospel is truly about!!!

**This ministry is a worthwhile thing.....**by Jimmie  
*(a father of some of our Chattanooga kids)*

My children attends the Chattanooga Community of Christ. Their lives are better because of it. I work long hours and do not attend church very often myself. But I do believe in God and am so glad my kids are able to attend church at a place who truly cares about them. Our neighbor boy invited them to come several months ago. I am glad he did.

My children now invites other kids to go with them. One of our neighbor's daughter goes with our kids on Thursdays. But her parents did not know they were going to a church . She thought they were just going to a community center.

This little girl's mom had a disappointing experience when she was a teenager. Her older brother was injured in a motorcycle wreck. Her family was all church goers. They prayed for the injured brother to be healed but instead he died. When this happened, the whole family stopped believing in God and did not want their children to be churchgoers. So I just told my neighbor that her daughter was going to the Center instead of going to a church with my kids. The girl is shy and her mother was happy for her to be associated with other children. But one Thursday night, my neighbor's daughter came home and asked her mother if she had ever heard some of the bible stories that she had been hearing at the Center. The daughter also told her mom that she has learned to pray. My neighbor became highly upset with me. She was under the impression her daughter was going to a community center but found that the Center was a church.

After getting chewed out, I gave my neighbor the name and phone number of one of the persons in charge of the Center. I try to assured her that the Center was very different than just being a church. The Center was a place where people are totally dedicated to kids and especially kids who have a tough time fitting in most places. But she was still angry.

The next morning she did call one of the ministers. They had a very long and at times, very heated discussion. But after the phone call was over, to my surprise, she said the minister was a real guy. She told me he allowed her to share her anger with God about her brother's death. She told me he did not give her any heady stuff. He just cried and talked with her. Before the phone call ended, he offered a prayer for her. She claims it was the first prayer she have allowed anyone to say for her in more than 15 years.

She also said that in no way is she going to start going to "church" again or becoming religious. But she said she was open to allowing her daughter to keep going. Since this time, her daughter gave us an envelope with money in it for offering from her mom and said her mom is listening to her prayers at night.

I feel bad about maybe misleading my neighbor but I feel somehow, God is using her daughter to allow my neighbor to again reopen her life a little bit to God.

The work going on at the Center is touching more lives than most people understand. Not only is my own family doing better because of it but even my neighbors are. Thank you all who supports this ministry. It is a worthwhile thing!

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**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 return address below**

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someone else today!**

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