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# Crumb Donors Story Time

Happy March 2007 Crumb Donors! This is Jared and we got a lot of stuff to tell you about this month. So let's get to it.

This issue is being dedicated to Don Barber who is stepping down as our treasurer. He is a great friend and we will miss him. Steve Koehler has agreed to take on this responsibility so please note the new address to send your crumb donation in to.

On the last Saturday of this month, the world church will kick off a special fund raiser to help us improve our facilities...YO BUDDY! Remember to make this all work, we will still need your crumb donor donations more than ever.....thank you.

Memorial Day Weekend Reunion will be held on May 25-28. Please come and support us. The theme is "Walkin' It Out with Jesus!" To register contact Craig Hidy at [craig\\_hidy@hotmail.com](mailto:craig_hidy@hotmail.com) or at his phone number on the back. Please come.

Our Co-Pastor Keith Dutton has made a commitment to our congregation to shave his total head when we get 25 people baptized in 2007. Our kids are always excited about baptism but this year they have some added excitement in getting to possibly see their pastor with a shave head.

**In this issue....**You will read a thank you to Don Barber and a welcome on board to Steve Koehler. You will also read a story from our own Pastor Craig Hidy. You will share in a chat among some Chattanooga Kids about crumb donors. You will also get to read about Jeremy and his baptism. You will also see the new address to send your donations to.

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Chattanooga Urban  
Ministries Crumb  
Donors Newsletter  
March 2007 Edition

Edited by the  
Yo Buddy Gang

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#### Special Notes:

- ☺ This issue is dedicated to Don Barber!
- ☺ Steve Koehler is our new crumb donor treasurer!
- ☺ Memorial Day Weekend Reunion 2007 is Friday—Monday, May 25– 28. Theme: Walkin' It Out with Jesus!
- ☺ Pastor Keith Dutton to shave his head when we get 25 baptisms this year!!!!

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

# Thank you Don Barber & Steve Koehler

This issue of our crumb donors newsletter is dedicated to Don Barber. Don has served as our Crumb Donors Treasure since the very first person donated the first \$10. But beside collecting the donations, paying our bills, keeping the books, sending receipts, applying for grants and all the other financial stuff, Don has done much more beyond the call of duty for Chattanooga. He has served on our building committee, organized work days 4 times a year, attended our camps and special events and took care of our special needs. Yet, Don has also served our staff as a great pastoral care minister. He called us just to check on us. When someone on our staff was going through a hard time, Don was here for us. We have been richly blessed by Don Barber for the past several years.

So it is with great gratitude and yet sadness that we announce Brother Don is stepping down as our crumb donor treasurer. He recently change jobs and his new jobs require more of his time. Thank you Don for being a great friend, a great crumb donor, a great treasurer and a great pastoral care minister. Your dedication has made a great difference. This ministry is stronger, bigger and more effective due to your dedication. YO BUDDY for Don Barber. On behalf of the entire Chattanooga Urban Ministries and all crumb donors, thank you from the bottom of our hearts.

**Our new crumb donors treasurer** is Steve Koehler. He is taking on this responsibility immediately. Steve was an original organizer of crumb donors. He is highly qualified to be our new treasure. He is a retired Community of Christ appointee minister. He is a former federal officer and a former auditor for the United States Postal Service. Beyond this, Steve is a crumb donor and a great friend to this ministry. We are all blessed to have Brother Steve in this role.

This means you now send your crumb donors donation to the following address:

**Crumb Donors  
C/o Steve Koehler  
155 Richland Court  
Gallatin, TN 37066-3018**

Steve wants to be sure each crumb donor has easy access to him if you have questions or concerns. Steve can be reached by phone at 615-451-4646 and by email at

**sakoehler@bellsouth.net**

We want to welcome Steve on board as our crumb donors treasurer. So when you send this month's crumb donation include a "welcome on board" note.

Thank you Don for your years of service and thank you Steve for being willing to take this new responsibility on. Thank you crumb donors for you ongoing support.

## **A Testimony of Doing Ministry**

### **By Chattanooga Co-pastor Craig Hidy!!!**

On a neighborhood prayer walk this last month; a couple of us met a family that just lives a few blocks down from the Center. They were outside talking about some issues going on in their lives. We walked up to them, told them who we were, and shared our testimony of Jesus Christ.

They were moved by our testimonies and began to open up their hearts telling us about their concerns for their daughter in Texas who has gotten into some drug problems. We talked and prayed with them for a while. They then mentioned that their daughter, Tiffany, who was standing there, was going in for some sclerosis tests on Tuesday.

We began talking to them about the sacrament of administration. The family was up for any prayer because they felt like they needed some blessings in their life. So we administered to Tiffany right there on the street outside of their house.

We exchanged contact information and went on our ways. That next Tuesday came around and I called the mother to see how the tests went. She was overjoyed to talk to me because the daughter, who had previously been told she would need a back brace, was told that her back was completely straight. The doctor said this must be some type of miracle. A miracle had taken place and they felt truly blessed by God.

All I know is that God works in mysterious ways. We may not always understand God but we do know that God is real, active, and moving in our lives. This family plans to come to church this next Sunday. I hope I see them walk through the doors with smiles on their faces ready to give thanks to God in worship. But there is also the great chance that they will not come through those doors. And to tell you the truth it really doesn't matter.

Yes I would like to see them take that step of faith. But I also have to realize that ministry is ministry whether a person comes to church or not. Too many times we get caught up in wanting results and this takes us off focus from **doing ministry**. God calls us to be the hands and feet in this world that does not mean just in a church or a certain denomination.

There are many people around us that are hurting and oppressed. We can reach out to them and expect nothing in return because ministry is about meeting others where they are at. Crumb donors help us help others and we want to thank each of you for doing ministry that allows us to do ministry to others who are in need both in and out of church.

## **Feeling safe.....story of Jeremy & Jesus**

When you are naturally big and strong, everyone seems to expect certain things from you. The family expects you to be the protector of younger brothers and all your cousins. Teachers expects you to always be a leader. Coaches expect you to be a super star. When trouble break, cops suspect that you are the biggest troublemaker and throw you to the ground first and handcuff you before asking questions.

Then you add to this, a natural quiet and shy person with a bad temper inherited from your father who went to prison for his temper and a learning disability that makes it hard to understand as quickly as others, you got what it is like to be Jeremy. Jeremy is known best at the church center as SUV because of his size.

He has been in trouble at school and with the law because someone would pick on one of his smaller siblings and Jeremy will move in to protect them. His temper would take over some and before it is all over, Jeremy is the one who ends up in big trouble.

He is now in high school and has been coming to the center since he was in elementary school. In all those years, Jeremy has lost his temper there only once when his girl cousin got punched in the face by a bigger boy. He is aware of his temper and works hard to avoid situations where his temper may be lost. He always asks for prayers. For the most part at the center, he is a gentle leader. But Jeremy has never felt worthy of being baptized. He would make a commitment to be baptized but back out on the day of the service. He said he would get scared that he would disappoint God & Jesus. He never wanted to lose having God in his life. Jeremy said, "my dream is to someday be the type of person who God can be proud of."

Well, how many people do you know who really start their day with pleasing God being on their minds. The GREAT NEWS is this January, Jeremy did get baptized and confirmed into the Community of Christ. This was a giant victory. He has even joined our equipping team. There are not words to explain how big of a victory his baptism is. For years, he has been invited and finally he did it. He has not been in trouble since his baptism, however, he has some legal battles he is still facing because of previous trouble.

Jeremy still stays close to home to avoid trouble. But he is very proud to be a baptized member. He recently share with his family that his highlight of his teenage years was being baptized. He said he knows he has two families who cares about him. His natural family and his church family helps him feel very safe.

Jeremy's sense of safety and his baptism could never have happened if our crumb donors did not see to it that this ministry is available each month. This story is being shared in hopes that each crumb donor can catch a vision that you are making a great difference. Thank you for caring.

# YO BUDDY!!! (Chattanooga's way of Praising God)

**YO BUDDY** for every crumb donor! **YO BUDDY** for having great friends!!  
**YO BUDDY** for the many years that Don Barber served as our crumb donors treasurer!!  
**YO BUDDY** for Steve Koehler being willing to be our new crumb donor treasurer!!  
**YO BUDDY** for three new cell groups started here during March! **YO BUDDY** for you!  
**YO BUDDY** for getting the hardware store next to the center & for the new opportunities.  
**YO BUDDY** for having new people daily at church! **YO BUDDY** for our entire team.  
**YO BUDDY** for having former Pastor Kenny Alcorn here with us for two weeks this month.  
**YO BUDDY** for the call of God in our lives! **YO BUDDY** for the love of Jesus Christ!

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## **A Chat about Crumb Donors with some of our Chattanooga Kids**

Recently during a ride home from church, four of our kids became talking about our crumb donors. We want to share a portion of this conversation with you. The kids are age 10, 8, 7 & 6.

*"Why do the crumb donors help us so much? They don't live here,"* said one kid. Another responded, *"because Jesus told them He loves us and we need their help."*

Another kid states, *"You think they know we are ghetto kids. I mean do they know my momma is not a good mom?"* The oldest stated, *"I bet they don't know my dad and mom is in jail because of dealing drugs. Because if they knew that, they just think we was going to be bad too when we got bigger and not care about us."* Another responded, *"I bet they do know about our parents. Remember these crumb people belongs to Jesus too and that means we got to help each other out. They helping us out with stuff now because we are little but when we get big we will help them out by being good preachers and pastors."*

The chat continues: *"I just know these crumb donors will get to be in heaven because they are helping us just because Jesus told their hearts to do it. When I get to be a NBA basketball player, I will give all the crumb donors free tickets to all my games."* Another responds, *They don't want free tickets. They just want us all to be good people and not be crack heads or pimps. They just want us to go to church always and not steal and stuff. They just want us to not cry and be sad."*

Then one of them said to the adult driving, *"Hey, does crumb donors know we are bad sometimes? Do they know about East Chattanooga and how bad it is? Do they pray for us and give us money? Why do they do all this?"*

The adult says, *"Yes, they know about all this stuff and they want to help you beat the streets. Remember the song Jesus Loves me this I know? Well they know Jesus loves you and them and they just want to help."*

One of the kids said, *"The crumb donors must all be Jesus' heroes because they are nice. They help us become better people. There no doubt about it, crumb donors are going to heaven for sure!"*

What better way can our kids say thank you then believing you are all Jesus' heroes. Thank you & YO BUDDY!!!!!!

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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**

**Crumb Donors  
C/o Steve Koehler  
155 Richland Court  
Gallatin, TN 37066-3018**

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