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# Crumb Donors Story Time

**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. It starts 5 p.m. Friday.**

Our Community of Christ International Church kicked off a designated giving project to help Chattanooga Kids this month. You can find out more on our web page. We want to remind our generous crumb donors that we will still need your monthly support for operating expenses. Thank you for helping this ministry. The designating project is for help with building needs but operating expenses comes from our generous crumb donors.

**What happening?** This is the question many of you keep asking. Well, beside all the regular on-going growing daily ministries, many new efforts for outreach & growth is also occurring. Craig Lenfestey continues to lead our building committee in our **facility improvements**, church **planting is happening in Ooltewah**, new **teen cell groups** are happening in Cleveland & North Georgia, a new **adult cell group** is meeting in Dalton, GA, and a new **young adult recreation group** is also off and running.

**In this issue....**You will read a “Hello” from our new treasurer Steve Koehler. You will also read three different stories about our 6 baptisms in April.

**Please invite** someone to become a crumb donor!!!

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Chattanooga Urban  
Ministries Crumb  
Donors Newsletter  
April 2007 Edition

Edited by the  
Yo Buddy Gang

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### Special Notes:

- ☺ Three new crumb donors this month!
- ☺ Memorial Day Weekend Reunion 2007 is Friday—Monday, May 25- 28. Theme: Walkin’ It Out with Jesus!
- ☺ Six people got baptized this month in Chattanooga

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Check out our webpage	
<a href="http://www.crumbdonors.net">www.crumbdonors.net</a>	

# Hello from our new treasurer to all crumb donors

I wanted to take a moment and introduce myself to all the generous and loving Crumb Donors!! You guys are the HEROES OF MINISTRY to the Kids of Peace in Chattanooga and it is because of your generosity we have made miraculous progress over the years. Everyday I open your contributions and I am astounded by your testimonies and your consistency. A special thanks go to Don Barber for his years of faithful work and devotion to Crumb Donors.

The Munson family and I have been yoked in ministry for over 10 years. As a matter of fact, the Crumb Donor fund was birthed in my dining room several years ago in response to our need to go deeper and further in ministry to children and their families. I am a charter member of the Crumb Donor Fund, and I have seen lives changed and ministry expanded as we have labored together to extend this witness into the lives of God's people. My role now will merely go from project supervisor to your treasurer.

Now for the fun part! I have already had requests from several Crumb Donors about how they can do more. As you know, we try very hard to encourage giving that “goes outside the box” of normal contributions. Here are a couple of ideas that could impact your giving without taking away from other worthy causes in your normal giving.

**1. Spring/Summer Garage Sale** - All year I horde things that end up in my garage! My junk is someone else's treasure. Have a garage sale where the proceeds are donated to the Crumb Donor fund.

**2. Ask one other person to be Crumb Donor** – I have asked my two sons to be Crumb Donors. There may be another person you know to which this ministry may appeal. We will be happy to help in sending them newsletters and other information that will encourage them.

**3. There are several church congregations that donate out of their annual planning budgets.** The church I attend tithes every year on its operating income, and this money goes to outside groups, and could be used for a donation. Many times it is merely a matter of talking to your pastor. \$10 a month from a congregation is a wonderful response!

**Send me your ideas.** In the mean time, know that I am here for you and will do my best to serve you. I look forward to hearing from you and being associated with you in this hard hitting, and essential ministry. Yo Buddy and keep those Crumbs coming.

Steve Koehler  
Treasurer Crumb Donors

## **Surprised baptisms.....true story by Jimmy Munson...our chief church planter/senior pastor**

This month we baptized 6 people here in Chattanooga. Earlier this month, we baptized 3 people here on a Sunday morning. Then the following Tuesday, we baptized 2 more. This past Sunday, we baptized one more. All 6 of these are very precious stories of God bringing the increase to His flock. Five of these 6 are from the East Chat neighborhood and the other one came about because of one little boy inviting his friend to come to church with him..

But I wanted to write here about the two on a Tuesday night. I was sitting inside the center at a neighborhood society meeting which our center hosts once a month. I have just completed leading the 23 neighborhood adults in our devotion. When I noticed over my left shoulder 3 neighborhood boys literally running into the center. They were 3 boys who come to the center on a very limited basics. I sat there waiting for them to be disruptive so I could tell them it was an adult meeting and they would need to go outside.

But instead of their usual noise, the smallest of the 3 who was 12 year old Melvin tapped me on my shoulder. He lean down to my ear and said **"I want to be baptized and I want to do it tonight"**. My first reaction was this is not the time for this and there was no way they could possibly be ready to be baptized any way. But very quickly, a peaceful spirit swept my being and I was reminded that we have been praying for baptisms during the past month here in Chattanooga as a group. Even just two days ago after our Sunday baptismal service, myself and 3 teenage girls who just cleaned our buildings stood in the parking lot and prayed for more baptisms.

Now, for the first time in my 30 years as an ordained minister, a person was tapping me on the shoulder asking for baptism. In the midst of the many baptisms I have shared in...this was the first time a person walk immediately up to me and tap my shoulder saying "I want to be Baptized."

I knew for some reason on this Tuesday night that God has sent this boy to us for baptism for whatever reason God saw fit.. I quit questioning what God has just dropped in our laps. We walked outside and I asked my 3 young friends if they knew what baptism was about. They responded, **"it is how God can forgive all your sins and you make a promise to follow Jesus forever."** I asked who taught them that and they responded, **"everybody at this church knows this because you talk about it all the time here"**. We talked a little more then I told Melvin to call his mom. He did and she said yes and he said I want to do it now and his mom said OK.

As the meeting was ending now, I got on the phone and called Pastors Keith Dutton & Craig Hidy telling them to come to the center. They have just completed a meeting with a family from one of our church plants and said OK we are on our way. When Keith & Craig arrived, Keith called Melvin's mother again to reaffirm it was OK with her and she said yes again. Then one of the other boy, name Josh. said he wanted to be baptized tonight too. I told him we would have to get his parents permission. Pastors Craig & Keith took him down the road to ask permission of his parents and the answer was yes.

So we called a few more members of our team to come and Art & Judy Coffman and Jared Munson showed up. We did a baptismal service then a confirmation service with 2 of the 3 boys. The 3rd boy said he now wants to be baptized at camp in May.

My whole purpose of sharing this is just to let you all know....our congregation has been praying for people who need the ministry of baptism and Tuesday God brought three young boys into our center, dropped them in our laps, and have then say **"I want to be baptized"**. Three boys who were not on our baptismal prospect list but God sent to us and our prayer for baptisms continues to bring more into God's flock. Praying for baptism really works...on Tuesday it was God totally bringing the increase. These boys came in the door and ask to be baptized. It was amazing to me. Baptism is so important to God that God has his children from the hard-core streets of East Chat running right into our center and boldly saying I am here tonight to be baptized. YO BUDDY is all I can say. I hope my weakness in words can be blessed by the strength of God and you can all understand why I felt the need to share this.

## More Baptismal Stories from Chattanooga.....victory lies in our invitation to others!!!

Last Halloween, **Cedrick & Tracy** walked up to our center for the first time to trick or treat us as we sat outside with a table full of candy. They were two brothers who recently moved to the East Chat neighborhood and saw us sitting outside. After receiving candy, Pastor Craig Hidy **invited** the two teens to come to church. They have been coming to church at least twice a week ever since. They have also become good **inviters** and about a dozen new participants has come to our church family because of their **invite**.

The great news is a couple weeks ago, Cedrick & Tracy got baptized by Pastors Craig Hidy & Keith Dutton. They continued to come plus bring more family members and friends with them. It has been exciting to see these two strangers who came to us the first time just seeking candy, grow to become participants, church family, church members, **inviters** for Jesus and positive leaders in the neighborhood. **The victory lies in the invitation.** They were **invited and responded to the invitation** to become peacemakers & workers for Jesus Christ. They were reached with the good news & are now reaching out to others. YO BUDDY!!!

Last May, young LaDarius and his older brother Alonzo got baptized at camp. LaDarius **invited** his young friend **Kobe** to come to camp so he could watch the baptisms. This was Kobe first time to be around the Community of Christ. He was quiet and shy. But as LaDarius continued to constantly **invite** his friend Kobe to church events, Kobe began to attend more regularly and turn from a quiet shy boy to a delightful boy with new enthusiasm.

The great news is a couple weeks ago young Kobe got baptized by Jared Munson. His dad came to church for the first time to support Kobe in his decision to get baptized. Kobe came out of the water with a giant smile saying **“Wow I’ve just been baptized and it feels so good!”**

Kobe’s growth has not stopped with his baptism. He is now becoming an **inviter** also. After church last Thursday night, our new young church member stated, **“I never want to miss church. I love it because it is such a happy place. I got three friends who are going to come with me. When I get home, I am going to make a list of other friends I can invite too. So make sure the van don’t forget to pick me up. I just got to be at our church all the time.”**

As you can see, once again our **victory lies in our invitation to others!** A friend **invited** Kobe and now Kobe is **inviting** other friends. God continues to add the increase to the Community of Christ through one **invitation** at a time. YO BUDDY!!!!

# Our most Recent Baptismal Story

Earlier this month after hearing a prayer during church for God's help in finding those who need the ministry of baptism, 50 year old Terrol raised his hand and said **"count me in for baptism."** After church, he shared he felt God wanted him to be baptized but was afraid because he had a lot of problems in his life. Terrol said he did not ever want to try to con God and so he felt it was best that he waited.

Terrol has been coming to church on and off at the center for several months. He has been fighting addictions and the streets during almost his own entire adult life. He came to the center for the first time just to eat lunch after receiving an invitation from one of our adult members, but then slowly began to come more regularly. He is a tall man with a good personality who lives just down the street from the center.

He is a talented musician who plays the drum and wants to start playing them at church for us. Terrol says every time he tries to get close to God and do the right thing, things seem to just get tougher in his life. He continued to say that he wanted to be baptized but was afraid because he knew he was still a sinner.

This past Sunday, Terrol comes to church with a bag of clothes to maybe get baptized. However, he was afraid to come in because he was not sure if being baptized was the right thing for him to do yet. Finally he comes in but is stressed out and a little upset because of his fear of being good enough to be baptized. Mr. Jimmy goes to the back of the church and sat nears Terrol. They begin to talk. Terrol shares that other neighbors have told him to go to another church instead of this one because we just have too many kids to deal with and he needed special attention. He said he have had a very tough week since he began thinking about baptism. He also said he was afraid to get baptized because of his many problems including addictions. Mr. Jimmy and Terrol gets up and goes to our little chapel in the back of the center. There they talk together and pray. Terrol says he feels God wants him to be baptized but he is so afraid he is not good enough. Finally Terrol says, **"Let's do it. But I am so scared I will not be a good Christian but if God wants a weak guy with lots of problem then I am his man. Let's do it!"**

A few minutes later, Mr. Jimmy and Terrol enters the horse tank. Terrol gets baptized in the cold water. After his baptism, Terrol states, **"I don't know if I am just cold or if it is God but I definitely feel something good inside."** After changing clothes, he asks Mr. Jimmy if he and Miss Brenda Lenfestey (his adult break out group leader) could laid their hands on him now and confirmed him a member. A few minutes later, Terrol got confirmed into the Community of Christ by Jimmy & Brenda. Terrol said that he was glad he did it. He said it was the first time in his life he really felt accepted and forgiven. YO BUDDY!!!

We will keep praying for God to send us people who need ministry and we will also keep inviting others to come. As we do this, we need you all to keep being our crumb donors and sending your support. Together, we can continue to help God change lives for the better with the good news of Jesus Christ. Thank you for caring and sharing with us. 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**

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