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Profound quotes or
 scripture would work
 well here in this very
 space

- Sir Profound

Are You A Spectator?

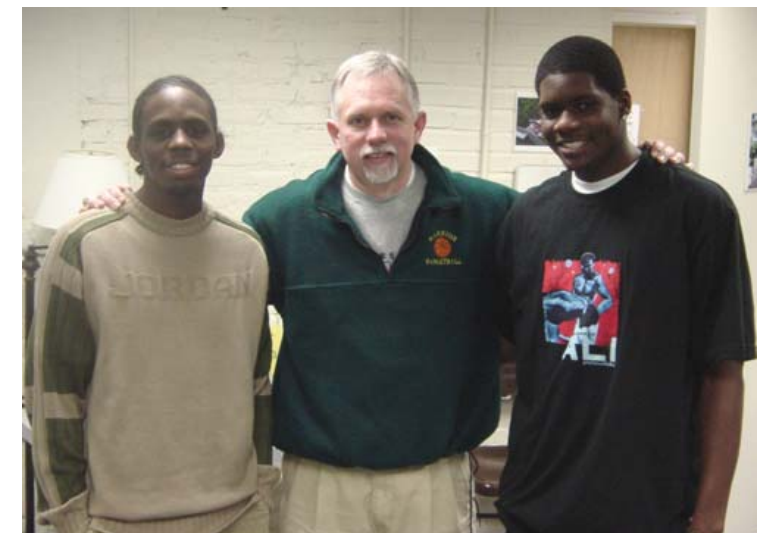
Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it.
 I Corinthians 12:27

A story is told of a village in a part of the world that is rainy for a small part of the year and dry throughout the rest of the year.

One year the village elders announced a plan: everyone in the village was to bring a single cup of water to a large tank in the center of town during the rainy season. Then, when the dry season came and water was scarce, the village would share equally the water in the tank.

The villagers all cheered the elders' plan, and all agreed to contribute their cup. The rainy season came and went. Dust began to settle on the village, the ground began to crack from the dryness, and water became scarce.

Then the day arrived when the elders agreed that the tank should be opened and the precious water should be shared among the villagers. Everyone gathered around the tank with cups and bowls and spirit of celebration was in the air. With great ceremony, the elders opened the tank and discovered that not a drop of water was to be found inside!



Former Streets kids and current part time staff, DD Osborne (left) and Daniel Collins, catch up with Ken on tiger basketball.

Only then was it learned that not a single villager had actually given any water. Despite agreeing to the elders' plan, each villager had assumed that his or her cup of water would not be missed, and so the water tank had sat empty throughout the rainy season. No one had done his or her individual part to contribute to the whole. The village was without water.

As members of the Body of Christ, we each play a significant role. Because of the hurriedness of our complicated lives, we often take the stance that others "have our slack." Nothing could be farther from the truth! Christ has uniquely equipped each one of us to play a role in evangelism and discipleship.

At Streets, we are rarely limited by money. However, we are limited by lack of volunteerism. As you read through this newsletter, please pray about the opportunities to share your faith in a very intentional way through our many outreach opportunities.

Your Brother in Christ,
 Ken

- Ken Bennett**
Executive Director
- Daniel Collins**
Recreation Center Specialist
- John Cowherd**
Middle School Coordinator
- Ashley Diaz**
Education Coordinator
- Grace Halliday**
Education Specialist
- Delvin Lane**
High School Coordinator
- Derrick 'DD' Osborne**
Computer Lab Specialist
- Gwen Sanders**
High School Women's Coordinator
- Rob Thompson**
Director of Development
- Monica Williams**
Education Specialist
Elementary Coordinator



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A Kid's Story

by John Cowherd

It was a calm day last August. The summer was winding down and we were preparing for a busy fall. A group of kids that had not been around much since school ended showed up at the door. We opened up the rec. room, as we often do during the summer, just to let kids hang out for a while. Most of the kids were familiar, but there was one new face – a young lady all the kids called Goo Goo. This was Goo Goo's first time at Streets, but fortunately it would not be her last. She soon became a regular at Middle School Club on Thursdays. She even stopped by Bible study a couple of times. The message at one of these Bibles studies focused on Jesus being the only way to God. We read Matthew 7:13-14, about the wide gate and broad road that leads to destruction and the small gate and narrow road that leads to life. After reading these verses, Goo Goo looked up and whispered to one of her friends, "That's really scary." A few weeks later, an excited Goo Goo celebrated her 13th birthday. She stopped by Streets after school to announce her personal all-day celebration. I was in my office when she came by and she sat down to chat about the topic of the day. As she talked about what she was getting for her birthday, I remembered that look on

her face when she attended Bible study. As we talked, the subject of conversation evolved from birthday gifts to God's gift of eternal life. Goo Goo prayed to receive Christ that day. One day the next week, I overheard her telling someone that she was not going to fight any more because she asked Jesus into her heart on her birthday.



Monica Williams (left) and John Cowherd lead songs at PowerZone Elementary Club before the Grizzlies' visit

Staff Spotlight: John Cowherd

Originally from Greensburg, Kentucky, John moved to Memphis in August of 1995 after graduating from Kentucky with a degree in History. He first visited South Memphis while hanging drywall for New Song Baptist Church on a Spring Break Mission Trip at UK. The summer after graduation, John returned to Memphis for a few days to visit with the pastor of New Song at the time, the late Dwight Clayton. Shortly thereafter, John felt a call to be in our South Memphis neighborhood fulltime and minister to the youth at New Song.

For six years, John faithfully served New Song and this community, working as a youth leader and interim pastor after Dwight's death. John lived at New Song, where he slept on a floor mat. John got to know Ken while working at New Song, because Streets was the place to go and find neighborhood kids after school. Always impressed with John's devotion to kids in the neighborhood, Ken told John

that if he ever left New Song, he would have to come work at Streets, and that's exactly what he did. In September of 2001, just as Delvin took over the high school ministry for Ken, John took over Delvin's previous position as Middle School Coordinator. Since then, John has done a fantastic job, taking kids to summer camp last summer, hanging out at ball games and school functions, and averaging 80 plus kids in his outreach club every Thursday night.

John balks at picking his favorite part of the job, saying that he loves everything: getting to share Christ, having club, hanging out at the school, showing kids that someone cares and just letting kids be kids. A huge sports fan, John also loves keeping up with Kentucky and Memphis basketball. While he is open to God's direction, John says that he doesn't plan on going anywhere, because this is home now. We hope that Streets is in God's plan for John for a long time.

Calendar of Events: February - March

- On Saturday, **February 1**, Streets took 25 middle and high school kids to the New Direction Christian Church Heritage Festival, which was put on in honor of **Black History Month**. The festival included three gospel choirs, several step team performances, drama productions, Gospel rap artists and other activities.
- On Thursday, **February 13**, John Cowherd drove the Vance Middle School boy's basketball team to Jackson, Tennessee for the **TSSAA Middle School State Tournament**, where the team finished in the Elite Eight. The team also finished the regular season as the District 16AA runner-up.
- Ken and Rob visited New Salem Presbyterian Church in Atoka, Tennessee on Sunday, **February 16** for their annual **Men's Wild Game and Fish Dinner** where Ken was the guest speaker.
- Over 100 staff and faculty from Vance Middle and BTW High School were treated to a **Staff In-Service Lunch** at Streets on Monday, **February 17**. Staff from both faculties spoke about how appreciated Streets is in their schools and classrooms.
- Streets' High School and / or Middle School groups have been to every single Grizzlies home game this season. Thanks to the Grizzlies and Taco Bell for helping make this possible.
- Speaking of the Grizzlies, **Rookie Chris Owens and Grizz** paid Streets a visit on Wednesday, **February 19** as a part of the Grizzlies' Read to Achieve program and Streets' Read to Succeed program with Hope Presbyterian Church. Chris, the great-nephew of Olympic legend Jesse Owens, read a story to 24 of our elementary and sixth grade students as a part of Black History Month.
- The **MUS Varsity baseball** team will be hosting a baseball clinic for the Vance middle school team Saturday, **March 1** from 10 am – 2 pm. The clinic will include individual instruction from MUS coaches and players.
- On **March 6** and 25 and April 15 and 22, Ashley Diaz is putting on **ACT Workshops** for students at BTW. Seven first-year medical students from UT Medical School will be assisting with individual tutoring.
- The week of **March 10 - 14**, Streets will host our annual **College Tour**. Ashley, John, Gwen and Delvin will take 20-plus students to eight colleges and universities, including historically black colleges, in Tennessee, Georgia and Alabama. This is a great trip that allows potentially college-bound Juniors and Seniors the chance to visit college campuses before they enroll. Please pray that the trip will be enlightening for students and safe for all. The cost to send each student is \$375 to cover travel and lodging. If you are interested in helping sponsor a student's trip cost, please contact Rob Thompson at Streets.
- On Wednesday, **March 26**, the Grizzlies are hosting a **Streets In-Arena Night** as they take on the Phoenix Suns. Streets will have a promotional booth in the concourse and a suite for our valued volunteers. Please stop by the booth and see us!



Grizz has a good time visiting Streets in February

Streets Ministries would like to thank Danka Copiers of Memphis for their printing services.