



## The Long Farewell

Our days of late are filled with the mixed feelings of intense sadness, contentment and excitement. It seems like we have been saying goodbye for some time now. Since January of this year, we have been planning for our departure from Ancona. A city which we love, like few other.

Each month that has passed has seen us bidding farewell to people, places and things here in this city. Regarding the goodbyes, we feel a little spent. We still have our final goodbyes coming up, those of our Italian friends and friends on the Ancona team.

In less than a week we will move out of our apartment, one that we have lived in for the majority of our adult lives. All these emotions tug at us. Yet, we are excited to see family and friends in the states. We are excited to share the ministry plan of Go Verona with our supporting churches and individuals. We are encouraged by the hearts of our Verona team members. We look forward to finding new recruits to join us, and new churches and individuals to partner with us financially or through prayer. Emotions such as these drain you and add stress. The good emotions and the negative ones. Our bodies have felt the stress and emotion; and our minds are continually aware of them. We know it won't always be like this. There is a time to mourn and a time to be happy...it's just strange when those times are one in the same.

We have been busily preparing for Home Assignment, as well as readying our things to move next week. In order to lessen stress on us during these last few weeks, we chose to not take an additional trip to Verona before leaving. It definitely feels like the wisest choice. Even in the midst of preparing and packing, we have been able to steal days of rest and refreshment. We will be doing more research on Verona while we are in the states, which will take care of most of the remaining goals I had set down.

Hopefully, by the time you read this, there will be a new interview up at Go Verona Radio. I am interviewing Jason Casey regarding his perspectives as the Team Leader for the Ancona team and someone who has been to Verona with us. Find the latest podcast at [www.goveronapodcast.blogspot.com](http://www.goveronapodcast.blogspot.com). Enjoy.

On November 4th or 5th, we will be heading out to Louisville for a Team Leader Summit. It is a time of encouragement, training and sharing for the Team Leaders of Team Expansion. We still do not have a transportation solution for while we are in the states. If you know of a possibility for us, please let us know. We will be gone for the first major trip from November 4th or 5th until a few days before Thanksgiving. If we do not find a solution we will have to rent a car. Let us know if you know of anyone who could help us with renting. We know God will provide, we are just looking forward to seeing how He does it.

Visit our newly launched team website at [www.goverona.org](http://www.goverona.org). Eighty-four people have visited it since it's launch at the beginning of the month. Feel free to explore it and let us know what you think!

One day, we will never have to say goodbye. One day we won't have to travel back and forth. One day, all those who know and follow Christ will be taken up with Him into heaven. That one day is precisely why we are in Italy.

In Christ,  
Matt & Angie

## Facts About Verona...

### Did You Know That....

...Verona will be the largest city where we will have lived in Italy? Perugia has 161,000, Ancona has 101,000 and Verona has 270,000!

...the arena of Verona, which is 2000 years old, is still used every summer for a successful opera season. This year there were six different operas performed many separate performances.

...there are 20 regions in Italy. The Veneto region where Verona lies, touches the border of Austria?

...Napoleon occupied the city of Verona in 1797, but on Easter Monday the people drove out the French.



Matt & Angie Crosser

## From Int'l Services

A Note from Team Expansion's President:



Doug Lucas

"In the fall, after work each day, I hurry to a local high school to coach their varsity boys soccer team. One of the toughest parts of my job is having to choose which players to put on the field. As you probably know, the laws of soccer restrict us to just 11 players on the field at any one time. I look into the eyes of the other 7 players, many of whom are equally skilled (we keep the best 18 players on the roster). I see their eagerness, I recall how hard they've worked in practice, and I'm torn by the fact that we can only play 11. I mean... it's such a big field! I'd love to put all 18 players out there. I have similar misgivings about our missionaries, except, in their case, once their trained, the main limitation is simply financial support. Through your gifts, prayers, and visionary faith, that limitation is being overcome. And as a result, hundreds... even \*thousands\* are hearing the gospel around the world, many for the first time. Thank you for undergirding the team, some of the best and greatest cross-cultural workers of their entire generation.

Thankfully,  
Doug Lucas  
President, Team Expansion

## Websites

Where in the world-wide web are we?

Our website:  
[www.thecrossers.com](http://www.thecrossers.com)

Our blog:  
[www.thecrossersblog.com](http://www.thecrossersblog.com)

Go Verona team website:  
[www.goverona.org](http://www.goverona.org) (Launched! check it out today!)

Go Verona news blog:  
[www.goveronanews.com](http://www.goveronanews.com)

Go Verona Radio podcast:  
[www.goveronapodcast.blogspot.com](http://www.goveronapodcast.blogspot.com)

Our Pictures:  
[www.fotki.com/mcrossover](http://www.fotki.com/mcrossover)

Team Expansion:  
[www.teamexpansion.org](http://www.teamexpansion.org)

## Our Timeline



## Taking Christ To Italy: Go Verona

Taking Christ To Italy is a PACE project launched by Team Expansion & Shively Christian Church

## From the Kitchen

Featured Recipe

### Olive Fritte - Fried Stuffed Olives

Last month, we shared about fried mozzarella. A very similar recipe is for fried olives, they are a common side item at restaurants.

**Ingredients:**  
green olives (pitted without pimentos)  
cheese cubed  
2 beaten eggs  
1 cup flour  
1 cup bread crumbs  
Oil

Heat oil in large skillet. Put a cube of cheese in the hole of the olive. Then dip in flour and then egg. Repeat and then dip in breadcrumbs. Cook breaded olives in hot oil turning once for about 1 minute on each side. When done let drain on paper towels and enjoy!

## Prayer Highlights

### Current Prayer Highlights:

**Answered Prayer -**  
~ Coffee House in Ancona went well, spent time w/friends  
~ Transition from Ancona to Verona team has is good.  
~ We have a housing solution for Tulsa.

**Verona Team Prayer -**  
~ Team members, John & Ann Blackburn (and their kids) as they prepare and support raise for the Verona work.  
~ Team member, April Houk as she goes through a transition from her current ministry to the Verona team.  
~ Our team's vacant positions (youth/worship)  
~ Pray for exposure at National Missionary Convention  
~ Spiritual walls to be broken down in Italy.

**Prayers for Italians -**  
~ People we've met in Verona: Lucia, Pasquale, Giovanni, Ellie and Felice.  
~ Friends in Ancona: Yuri, Valeria, Emanuela, Luca, Daniele and Simona to come closer to Christ.

**Prayers for Us -**  
~ Our living permits to be done before we leave.  
~ Our monthly financial commitments to be at 100%.  
~ Preparation for our Home Assignment.  
~ Need: dependable transportation while in the states.  
~ Refreshment at the Team Leader Summit.

**Ancona Team Prayer -**  
~ Ministry to flourish & spiritual guidance.  
~ Life Groups & New Celebration service.  
~ Friends to come to follow Christ.  
~ Jason & Heather Casey, as Jason leads the team.  
~ Marcus Van Dorn, is on Home Assignment.  
~ Brian & Heidi Rotert, as they lead in ministry.  
~ Josh Furnal, while raising support.

To be more informed, join our bi-monthly prayer update list. If you would like to receive this via email or postal mail, just let us know. Contact info is on the right.



**Matt & Angie Crossover**  
Missionaries to Verona, Italy  
[mcrossover@teamexpansion.org](mailto:mcrossover@teamexpansion.org)

**Our Support Team**  
Milton & Elizabeth Hendricks  
Forwarding Agents  
[moremail@valornet.com](mailto:moremail@valornet.com)

John & Judy Webb  
Team Pastors

Jimmy Foreman  
Representative Elder

Jayson & Janice French  
Representative Elder

### Our Team

Matt & Angie Crossover  
John & Ann Blackburn  
April Houk

### Our Mission

Our team exists to plant a church in Verona, Italy that glorifies God

### Our Roles

**Matt's main roles...**  
Team Leader  
Graphics & Design  
Video & Web Editing  
Curriculum Design  
Computer Tech  
Short Term Groups  
Building Relationships  
Administration

**Angie's main roles...**  
Homemaker  
Team Member  
Preschool Ministry  
Children's English  
Adult English  
Building Relationships  
Administration  
Hospitality

### Forwarding Address

Team Expansion  
2605 W Vandalia St  
Broken Arrow, OK 74012

Please send all support to this address and checks made out to: Team Expansion

### Physical Address

We are back in the states, as of Oct. 31. We'll let you know when we have our address in Tulsa, set up. You can still contact us via phone. By calling the number below.

(7 hours ahead of CST until Oct. 31)  
Home/Office 918-398-9351

# Finances

## Monthly Expense Recap For September 2007

	TOTAL
<b>Benefits</b>	
100 · Salary	\$979.77
110 · Medical Insurance	\$297.50
111 · Special Medical Expense	\$71.41
150 · Housing Allowance	\$422.87
160 · Utilities	\$192.46
180 · Contributions	\$20.00
<b>Total Benefits</b>	<b>\$1,984.01</b>
<b>Education</b>	
200 · Books/Periodicals	\$20.16
<b>Total Education</b>	<b>\$20.16</b>
<b>Christian Education</b>	
320 · Hospitality	\$201.79
<b>Total Christian Education</b>	<b>\$201.79</b>
<b>Evangelism</b>	
400 · Printed Material	\$95.59
420 · Hospitality	\$97.37
430 · New Field Research	\$380.93
<b>Total Evangelism</b>	<b>\$573.89</b>
<b>Postage</b>	
500 · In the Field	\$35.98
550 · In the States	\$123.72
<b>Total Postage</b>	<b>\$159.70</b>
<b>Office</b>	
600 · Supplies In the Field	\$100.60
640 · Facility/Utilities	\$20.00
650 · Supplies in the States	\$123.00
660 · Mission Phone	\$15.02
661 · E-Mail	\$38.50
<b>Total Office</b>	<b>\$297.12</b>
<b>Promotion/Representation</b>	
700 · For More Support	\$52.19
710 · For More Recruits	\$40.99
720 · Newsletters	\$40.99
730 · Reporting to Supporters	\$40.94
750 · Miscellaneous	\$278.00
<b>Total Promotion/Representation</b>	<b>\$453.11</b>
<b>Travel</b>	
800 · Car/Transportation	\$1.75
810 · Meals While Traveling	\$172.15
860 · Air Fare	\$1,968.76
<b>Total Travel</b>	<b>\$2,142.66</b>
<b>Miscellaneous</b>	
920 · Banking Fees	\$29.00
930 · Mission House	\$16.00
990 · Other	\$53.87
<b>Total Miscellaneous</b>	<b>\$98.87</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$5,931.31</b>

## Monthly Receipts Recap For August 2007

Donor Individuals (9)	Amount \$1825.00
<b>Churches (6)</b>	<b>\$ 5,880.00</b>
~ Edmond CC	\$ 550.00
~ Highland Park CC	\$1,110.00
~ Metro Faith CC	\$ 200.00
~ Osage Hills CC	\$ 270.00
~ Real Life Church	\$3,000.00
~ Shively CC	\$ 750.00
<b>Aug Grand Total</b>	<b>\$ 7,705.00</b>
<b>Aug Balance</b>	<b>\$ 1,383.35</b>
Sep Receipts	+\$ 7,705.00
Sep Sub-Total	\$ 9,088.35
Sep Expenses	-\$ 5,931.31
<b>Sep Balance</b>	<b>\$ 3,157.04</b>

Thanks for all you've contributed in finances and prayers!

### A note about the finances:

We had a couple of churches send extra money to help with airfare and preparation for Home Assignment. Another supporting church has taken on the task of supplying our apartment in Tulsa with furniture. We also had a special gift that is going towards promotional banners, initially for the National Missionary Convention, then for future camps, vbs's, church presentations, etc... That same special gift also is going towards brochures that we will be using for recruiting and seeking new sources of support. In the past month, I have sent out about 25 packets about our ministry and imploring for help. We are praying that God moves on the hearts of those considering partnering with this ministry. Also, one of our churches decide to raise their monthly commitment by \$250 per month. That is a great answer to prayer.

Next month, we will be updating you on our new budgets and the need for Verona. Since, we are relocating, finding a new facility, etc...we will be raising extra funds for that while we are in the states. Thanks for your partnership in this ministry.



**Matt & Angie Crosser**  
Missionaries to Verona, Italy  
mccrosser@teamexpansion.org

### Current Financial Need

We currently have monthly commitments of \$4,355 raised out of a total need of \$5,579. All we ask is that you prayerfully consider what God might want you to give, and that is between him and you.

We have a 2007 budget that is based on an dollar/euro exchange rate of 1.35%. If the exchange rate worsens then everything will cost a little more than normal. The exchange rate peaked around 1.39% in July.

Next month, we will share our budget for 2008, and how you can help!

### Ways You Can Help

There are a few ways that you can partner with our ministry.

- 1) We need monthly supporters. You could commit an amount to send each month towards our ministry.
- 2) We need prayer partners to commit to pray for ourselves, our team and the people of Verona on a regular basis. If you would like to commit to being a prayer partner, let us know.
- 3) We are thankful for special offerings. Whether your gift is from your VBS, camp, Sunday School or yourself, it is always appreciated. We have unexpected things happen from time to time and your special gifts help weather the storms the enemy throws at us.
- 4) We need teams to come over and assist in our work. It may take us a few months to get settled in Verona next year. Then, once we are settled we look forward to having mission team come over and help. Ask for information.

## Taking Christ To Italy: Go Verona

Taking Christ To Italy is a PACE project launched by Team Expansion & Shively Christian Church

# The Umbrella of Taking Christ to Italy



**Matt & Angie Crosser**  
Missionaries to Verona, Italy  
mccrosser@teamexpansion.org



Taking Christ to Italy is the project name for the PACE project between Shively Christian Church and Team Expansion. The plan was envisioned in 1996, to plant three churches in the country of Italy. One in Central Italy, one in Northern Italy and one in Southern Italy. The first church plant was launched in the city of Ancona. We have been a part of that work since May 1999. This year, the decision was made to move forward with the project and expand focus to the next phase. Verona was chosen as the next target city in Northern Italy. Someday, a city in Southern Italy will be chosen to signal the intended completion of the plan. The entire project is fulfilling the vision set forth by Shively Christian Church while each team functions as a Team Expansion team, holding to the principles and guidelines of Team Expansion. Even though we will remain under the same umbrella as the Ancona team members, we won't be ministering alongside them on a daily basis. Even though we are all working together for the overall purpose of planting three churches in Italy, we will miss the shared ministry in a local setting within the same city.

We want to take this opportunity to encourage and lift up the Ancona team, as we move on and look ahead to the new city that God has laid before us. Thanks for everything Jason, Heather, Marcus, Brian, Heidi and Josh. We love you guys and will miss you and your wonderful children, Jacob, Haven, Harrison, Lance, Chloe and Trey. Thanks for the memories. We trust leaving the work in Ancona with you. We look forward to sharing the ministry within the overall plan of *Taking Christ to Italy*. And we will pray for you.

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