



And a New Chapter Begins

As we shared with you last month, this was our first full month focusing predominately on the Verona Team, and wow has it been packed. We have so many things to do, in order to relocate and prepare the new ministry. As Team Leader, I am not only focusing on the things that we are doing and going to do, but also the rest of our team.

At the beginning of the month, Angie and I spent time planning out the next nine months (basically from August until we come back to Italy). These tasks and goals that we came up with make up our Field Ministry Plan and it is broken up into eight Primary Objectives. These help us see at a glance the major areas of focus for our team over the upcoming months. These objectives are: A) Relocating; B) Recruiting; C) Research; D) Preparation; E) Relationship Building; F) Promotion & Communication; G) Administration; and H) Training. Each of these objectives have many goals/tasks underneath that will ensure those objectives are accomplished. If you would ever like to see our Field Ministry Plan, let us know and we can get you a current copy.

Depending on how much time you spend on the internet, you may have heard of podcasts. Basically, a podcast is an audio clip from 3 minutes to 50 minutes, depending on the format and subject matter. It is sort of like a radio show like talk radio. We have launched for the Verona team, Go Verona Radio. It is our official podcast helping connect you to the ministry of Go Verona. Each edition will be about 5-6 minutes, and will come out about once per month. We'll use it for following: i) interviews of team members or people who visit the field, ii) as another platform for informing you of the ministry, iii) we may focus on aspects of Verona, iv) as a way to involve you by asking questions about the ministry and giving us an opportunity to answer them. So, go to www.goveronapodcast.blogspot.com to find the latest podcast and/or subscribe to it. Hope you enjoy it and if you have any suggestions of topics for future podcasts, let us know.

As you have read above, one of our Primary Objectives is "relationship building". This means, anything that has to do with growing our relationships in Italy, whether in Verona or Ancona. We are trying different ways to ignite our new relationships in Verona (via text message or email) and we are continuing to deepen our current relationships in Ancona. Some of these relationships will continue in the future, through long distance. Whether it is dinners together, going to city events, movies, etc... these opportunities are like "appointments" for us to deepen our friendships. It is once these bridges of trust are solid that we can truly be an influence in our friends' lives.

We have about two months left here in Ancona before returning to the states for Home Assignment. Pray for us as we pack, put things in storage, continue research of Verona (we have probably two trips left) and say goodbye to many dear friends. It is quite an emotional rollercoaster. Thanks for your involvement in our ministry.

In Christ,
Matt & Angie

Facts About Verona...

Did You Know That....

...Verona has the highest divorce rate in Italy?

...Shakespeare's *Romeo & Juliet* may have been based on real people living in Verona around 1300-1400's?

...the population of Verona is approx. 270,000?

...the Veneto province, where Verona is located, has an incredible low percentage of 0.045% evangelicals?



Matt & Angie Crosser

From Int'l Services

A Note from Team Expansion's President:

This past Sunday, I was talking to a good friend who pilots his own biplane. We were talking about some recent tragedies at nearby air shows and I asked him if he was ever scared when flying "loop the loops" and other stunts. His answer? He quoted a highly-respected flying instructor who once told him to start every trick '10 mistakes high.' I'm sure I looked confused, because he went on to explain that if the trick required 100' vertical feet, the instructor wanted him to start it at 1000'. I thought about that for a long time afterward. I've concluded that missionaries are more like stunt pilots than trapeze artists. We don't really have the luxury of a safety net. But we *do* have a band of prayer warriors and supporters that can help us survive a long nose dive. For every difficult task we tackle, we need 10 supporters and prayer partners to make sure we can survive. In reality, you (our supporters and friends) *are* our safety net. You keep us going when the 'loop the loops' are long. Thanks for your partnership and shared vision. On behalf of the whole organization, thanks for the support you provide for Team Expansion's ministry in the life of the missionary you know and love!

Doug Lucas
Louisville, Kentucky

Websites

Where in the world-wide web are we?

Our website:
www.thecrossers.com

Our blog:
www.thecrossersblog.com

Go Verona team website:
www.goverona.org (coming soon)

Go Verona news blog:
www.goveronanews.com

Go Verona Radio podcast:
www.goveronapodcast.blogspot.com

Our Pictures:
www.fotki.com/mcrossover

Team Expansion:
www.teamexpansion.org

Our Timeline



In Ancona
(present - Nov.1)



In the United States
(Nov. 1 - May/Jun. 2008)



In Verona
(May/June 2008)

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

Bruschetta - a different style

Usually Bruschetta is served with chopped tomatoes on top, but during one of our recent trips to Verona we ordered bruschetta in a restaurant and it came out a bit different. We don't yet know if this is the Veronese way to fix it or if it is just this restaurant's style. It sounds different but was really very good.

Ingredients:
Toasted Bread
Clove of Garlic
Spaghetti Sauce

Rub the clove of garlic on the toasted bread. Then put a very thin layer of spaghetti sauce on top of the bread and serve warm. Yum!

PS - Bruschetta is pronounced brus-ketta in Italian.

Prayer Highlights

We definitely cherish your prayers as we go about our day to day lives. The enemy is lurking around every corner, waiting to pounce on the unexpectant, unprotected soul. However, we know that we are protected by our Father, who loves us and are thankful that you support our ministry in prayer. We publish an email prayer update twice monthly and occasionally special updates for urgent requests. If you would like to receive this email update, just let us know and we would be happy to add you to the list. Don't have email? Don't like computers? Just let our forwarding agents know and we can add you to our printed prayer updates so that you can be involved in praying for this ministry.

Current Prayer Highlights:

- ~ Transition from the Ancona to Verona teams.
- ~ Thanks for our successful planning sessions.
- ~ Our team members, April Houk and John & Ann Blackburn (and their kids) as they prepare and support raise for the Verona work.
- ~ Our team's vacant positions (youth/worship)
- ~ Lucia, Pasquale & Giovanni were met on a recent trip to Verona.
- ~ Friends in Ancona: Yuri, Valeria, Emanuela, Luca, Daniele & Simona to come closer to Christ.
- ~ Both Life Groups and the ministry in Ancona.
- ~ Spiritual walls to be broken down in Italy.
- ~ Our living permits to be done before we leave.
- ~ Our monthly financial commitments to be at 100%.



Matt & Angie Crossover
Missionaries to Verona, Italy
mcrossover@teamexpansion.org

Our Support Team
Milton & Elizabeth Hendricks
Forwarding Agents
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

Matt & Angie Crossover
Piazza Malatesta, 25
60121 Ancona AN
Italia

(7 hours ahead of CST)
Home/Office 918-398-9351
Matt's Cell 011-39-392-320-9987
Angie's Cell 011-39-349-139-3523

Finances

Monthly Expense Recap For July 2007

	TOTAL
Benefits	
100 · Salary	2,104.03
110 · Medical Insurance	297.50
150 · Housing Allowance	3,435.44
180 · Contributions	20.00
Total Benefits	5,856.97
Education	
200 · Books/Periodicals	86.90
230 · Team Building	219.88
240 · Equipping Missionaries	30.14
Total Education	336.92
Christian Education	
320 · Hospitality	367.08
Total Christian Education	367.08
Evangelism	
420 · Hospitality	126.31
Total Evangelism	126.31
Postage	
500 · In the Field	23.29
Total Postage	23.29
Office	
600 · Supplies In the Field	429.08
640 · Facility/Utilities	121.38
650 · Supplies in the States	162.02
660 · Mission Phone	117.54
Total Office	830.02
Promotion/Representation	
700 · For More Support	9.19
730 · Reporting to Supporters	30.00
Total Promotion/Representation	39.19
Travel	
800 · Car/Transportation	292.10
806 · Vehicle Maintenance	2,577.74
810 · Meals While Traveling	97.85
830 · Housing While Traveling	238.50
Total Travel	3206.19
Miscellaneous	
900 · Unspecified Equipment	24.57
920 · Banking Fees	271.92
Total Miscellaneous	296.49
TOTAL	11,082.46

Monthly Receipts Recap For July 2007

Donor Individuals (14)	Amount
	\$ 2675.00
Churches (9)	
	\$ 6,789.84
~ Cedar Ridge CC	\$ 500.00
~ Edmond CC	\$ 2,550.00
~ First CC - Kenosha	\$ 500.00
~ Highland Park CC	\$ 1,719.84
~ Metro Faith CC	\$ 200.00
~ Osage Hills CC	\$ 270.00
~ Real Life CC	\$ 50.00
~ Sandusky Ave CC	\$ 100.00
~ Shively CC	\$ 900.00
Reimbursements	\$ 420.00
July Grand Total	\$ 9,884.84
Jun Balance	
	\$ 2,597.31
Jul Receipts	+\$ 9,884.84
Jul Sub-Total	\$ 12,482.15
Jul Expenses	-\$ 11,082.46
Jul Balance	\$ 1,399.69

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

A note about the finances:

We had some very crazy, unexpected car problems last month with which several of our supporting churches rose up to help offset the costs. We are so thankful for individual supporters and supporting churches who are so faithful and help in urgent situations. Throughout that situation we felt very "supported" by you all, in more ways than with finances. We know that you care about our ministry and more comforting that you care about us. Thanks once again for your partnership with us in this ministry. This is as much your ministry as it is our ministry. We are all brought together in God's greater plan. Thanks.



Matt & Angie Crosser
Missionaries to Verona, Italy
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Current Financial Need

We currently have monthly commitments of \$4,105 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.

In the Fall, we will be reviewing our budget for 2008, so that we can project as accurately as possible the cost of living/ministry.

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.