Vol. 10; No. 2; April 2008

Matt & Angie Crosser, Team Expansion Missionaries to Verona, Italy

# Looking back, then ahead

Join us in welcoming our newest team members, Brandon & Savannah Eaton. They are a great family addition to our team and together they will be focusing on student ministries. Brandon will be leading in the areas of teens through college and Savannah will be leading in the areas of children's ministry. This compliments the preschool ministry and children's english program that Angie is leading. Brandon grew up in Florida and Savannah was raised in North Carolina. They both went to Johnson Bible College. They finished up at Johnson in 2005. Pray for them as they begin this rollercoaster experience that God has in store for them.

As we moved closer to our departure date, we constantly evaluated the timing of the move. In order to allow others on our team to go to the field with us, it was necessary to extend our departure date to the end of September 2008. This will give us more time to cultivate supporting churches and raise more financial support along the way. We are already set up to do three VBS's and three camps, now that we are staying through the summer.

On April 8th, we head out on a month long journey to visit supporters and friends. We are going through ten states and will be back in Oklahoma on May 7th. Check out the route on the right. Below is our basic itinerary:

April 8th - From Tulsa to Forrest City, Arkansas

April 9th - to Cookeville, Tennessee

April 10th - to Mount Airy/King, North Carolina

📾 April 12th - to Louisville, Kentucky

🚍 April 29th - Indianapolis, Indiana then Chicago, Illinois

April 30th - to Kenosha, Wisconsin

May 6th - to St. Louis, Missouri

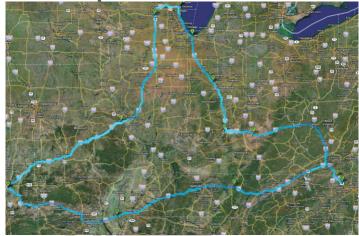
May 7th - back to Tulsa, Oklahoma....whew.

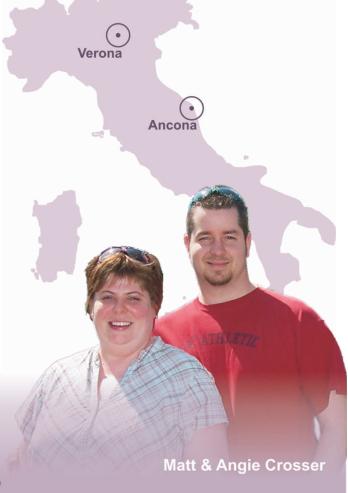
Pray that our journey would be fruitful and that we will raise more monthly financial commitments, yield more prayer partners, receive more gifts toward one time financial needs, and have an encouraging time with friends and supporters.

We now have seventy-two percent of our monthly budget raised. That is \$5,005 out of \$6,976. That is great so far, but we still need about \$1900 committed. That could come from any supporter or church. Please for those funds to be raised so we can go back to Italy fully funded. If you would like to schedule time with us, please email or call to set it up!

In Christ, Matt & Angie

## **Our Trip Route...**





Taking Christ To Italy: Go Verona

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

## From Int'l Services

A Note from Team Expansion's President:



Doug Lucas

My family and I recently drove to the top of a very tall & remote mountain (13,796 feet above sea level). I was amazed by the views it afforded, especially at night, when it grew very dark. (Since we were hours from the nearest city, it was a case of \*extreme\* darkness.) Stars were everywhere. I wrote in my journal, "I don't deserve to see this majesty; the stars

appear to be \*screaming\* glory to their creator!" No matter which direction I looked, I could see deep space objects with the naked eye. And when I looked at any given point in the sky with my binocular, I would see \*dozens\* of galaxies, clusters, and nebulae in seemingly every field of view. What impressed me most was how \*clear\* these objects were. You see, when it comes to astronomy, the darker the sky, the more amazing the view. I've noticed a similar phenomenon with missionaries. In times of great financial need, the smallest check can appear as a very bright spot in an otherwise very dark month. So please don't ever forget -- your gift of prayer and finances can be \*the\* difference-maker in inspiring your favorite Team Expansion worker to keep shining brightly in areas of the world where Christ's name is least known. Thank you for your support & sacrifice. Thank you for making Team Expansion's work possible through your partnership!

**Doug Lucas** President, Team Expansion

## Websites

Our website:

www.thecrossers.com

Our blog:

www.thecrossersblog.com

Go Verona team website:

www.goverona.org

Go Verona news blog:

www.goveronanews.com

Go Verona Radio podcast:

www.goveronapodcast.blogspot.com

**Our Pictures:** 

www.fotki.com/mcrosser

Team Expansion:

www.teamexpansion.org

#### **Our Timeline**



In the United States (present - Sep. 30, 2008)

### From the Kitchen

Crostini con prosciutto e mozzarella -Toast with Ham & Mozzarella

Ingredients:

1 slices of ciabatta bread

6 Thin slices of prosciutto (Italian cured ham)

1 ball of fresh mozzarella sliced into six pieces

3 tablespoons butter

6 fresh sage leaves

Toast your ciabata bread. Top it with a slice of prosciutto and then a slice of mozzarella. Bake in oven until cheese melts. Melt butter on stove and add sage leaves. Let sage leaves fry just a bit and then add some salt and pepper. Pour a little bit of butter sauce on each piece and add one of the cooked sage leaves to the top of each piece of bread. Makes six. Enjoy!

# **Prayer Highlights**

**Current Prayer Highlights:** 

Answered Prayer -

- New team members for youth and children, Brandon & Savannah Eaton.
- ~ Recent increases in monthly commitmentsl. ~ Taught at OCC Intl Focus Week, it went well.

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.
- ~ Pray for new team members, Brandon & Savannah, as they get on board with the ministry. ~ Our team's vacant positions (music/worship)

Prayers for Italians -

- People we've met in Verona: Lucia, Pasquale, Giovanni, Ellie and Felice.
- ~ Pray for our team's neighbors in Verona, Will you pray that we will use times of running into each other to get to know our neighbors. Pray that God will use us to reveal Himself to them.

Prayers for Us -

- ~ Major travel visiting supporters through ten states from April 8th to May 7th.
- ~ Pray as we finish our assignments for our class"Perspectives"
- Our monthly financial commitments to be at 100%.
- ~ Our living permits to be done.

Ancona Team Prayer -

- Ministry to flourish & spiritual guidance.
- ~ Friends to come to follow Christ.
- ~Jason & Heather Casey, as Jason leads the team and Heather supports him.
- ~ Marcus Van Dorn, as he reaches his friends.
- ~ Brian & Heidi Rotert, as they minister to others.
- ~ Josh Furnal, as he brings joy to Italians.

Ask about our bi-monthly prayer update list.



In Verona (Sep. 30, 2008\*)

\* depends upon preparations factors of new team

Taking Christ To Italy: Go Verona

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

# Team Expansion

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

**Our Support Team** Milton & Elizabeth Hendricks Forwarding Agents moremail@valornet.com

John & Judy Webb

Jimmy Foreman

Jayson & Janice French Representative Elde

#### **Our Team**

Matt & Angie Crosser April Houk John & Ann Blackburn Brandon & Savannah Eaton

#### **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 the address above with checks made out to: Team Expansion

#### **Physical Address**

Matt & Angie Crosser 9407 E 65th St Apt #3213 Tulsa OK 74133

Matt's cell 918-850-9828 Angie's cell 918-851-7944 Home/Office 918-398-9351

Page Two

## **Finances**

Monthly Exp. Recap/Jan 2008	Office
TOTAL	600 · Supplies In Field 239.00 640 · Facility/Utilities 28.00
TOTAL	650 · Supplies in States 36.06
Benefits	660 · Mission Phone 45.12
100 · Salary 2,029.78	661 · E-Mail 55.35
111 · Spec. Medical Exp 79.94 150 · Housing Allow. 498.72	Total Office 403.53
150 · Housing Allow. 498.72 160 · Utilities 57.26	Promotion/Representation
180 · Contributions 20.00	700 · For More Support 850.87
Total Benefits 2,685.70	710 · For More Recruits 31.92
	720 · Newsletters 31.91
Education	730 · Report to Supporters16.33
200 · Books/Periodicals 136.14 230 · Team Building 15.43	Total Promo/Repres. 931.03
Total Education 151.57	Travel
	800 · Car/Transportation 275.59
Christian Education	810 · Meals While Travel 85.15
320 · Hospitality 41.64 Total Christian Education 41.64	870 · Misc. Expenses 455.00 Total Travel 815.74
Total Clinstian Education 41.04	Total Havel 815.74
Office	Miscellaneous
600 · Supplies In Field 50.00	930 · Mission House 355.06
640 · Facility/Utilities 28.00	Total Miscellaneous 355.06
650 · Supplies in States 307.01 660 · Mission Phone 169.98	FEBRUARY TOTAL 4,840.21
661 · E-Mail 22.38	FEBRUART TOTAL 4,040.21
Total Office 577.37	Monthly Exp. Recap/March 2008
Promotion/Representation	TOTAL
700 · For More Support 202.93 710 · For More Recruits 280.13	Benefits 100 · Salary 2,436.65
720 · Newsletters 9.95	111 · Spec Medical Exp 83.02
Total Promo./Rep. 493.01	150 · Housing Allowance 484.33
	160 · Utilities 100.75
Travel 800 · Car/Transportation 256.74	180 · Contributions 20.00 Total Benefits 3,124.75
810 · Meals While Trav. 172.67	10tal Bellents 3,124.75
820 · Fees/Tolls 4.70	Education
830 · Housing While Trav.107.64	200 · Books/Periodicals 288.31
870 · Misc. Expenses 459.00	220 · Confer./Classes 90.00
Total Travel 1,000.75	Total Education 378.31
Miscellaneous	Christian Education
930 · Mission House 22.33	320 · Hospitality 53.89
Total Miscellaneous 22.33	Total Christian Education 53.89
JANUARY TOTAL 4,972.37	Evangelism
4,572.07	400 · Printed Material 4.88
Monthly Exp. Recap/Feb. 2008	Total Evangelism 4.88
TOTAL	Office 600 · Supplies In Field 50.00
Benefits	640 · Facility/Utilities 28.00
100 · Salary 1,276.61	650 · Supplies in States 449.01
111 · Spec. Medical Exp 100.00	661 · E-Mail 21.81
150 · Housing Allow. 473.00	Total Office 548.82
160 · Utilities 98.87 180 · Contributions 20.00	Promotion/Poprocontation
Total Benefits 1,968.48	Promotion/Representation 700 · For More Support 300.12
1,000.10	710 · For More Recruits 299.12
Education	720 · Newsletters 77.06
200 · Books/Periodicals 90.95	730 · Report/Supporters 284.25
220 · Confer./Classes 220.00 Total Education 310.95	Total Promo/Repres. 960.55
iotai Luucatioii 310.95	Travel
Christian Education	800 · Car/Transportation 283.47
320 · Hospitality 25.47	806 · Vehicle Mainten. 26.98
Total Christian Education 25.47	810 · Meals While Travel 68.77
Evangelism	860 · Air Fare 608.00 870 · Misc. Expenses 481.00
400 · Printed Material 29.95	Total Travel 1,468.22
Total Evangelism 29.95	

Miscellaneous		Team Expansion Italy
900 · Unspecified Equip 920 · Banking Fees	233.30 60.00	Matt & Angie Crosse

7.03

300.33

6,839.75

Amount

\$1,361.23

\$3,205,77

\$5.031.23

\$ 632.07

\$ 690.93

Amount

\$2,320.84

\$3,670.00

\$5,990.84

\$ 690.93

+\$5,990.84

\$ 6,681.77

-\$ 4.840.21

\$ 1.841.56

Amount \$1.989.99

\$4,320.00

\$6,309.99

\$ 1,841.56

+\$ 6,309.99

\$ 8,151.55 -\$ 6,839.75

\$ 1,311.80

+\$ 5,031.23

\$ 5.663.30 -\$ 4,972.37

930 · Mission House

Monthly Receipts Recap/Jan. 2008

First CC - Sapulpa \$480.00 Highland Park CC \$1,110.00

Monthly Receipts Recap/Feb. 2008

Sandusky Avenue CC \$200.00

Monthly Receipts Recap/Mar. 2008

First CC - Kenosha \$1,000.00 First CC - Sapulpa \$200.00

Sandusky Avenue CC \$100.00

Thanks for your contributions through financial giving and prayers!

**FEBRUARY GRAND TOTAL** 

JANUARY GRAND TOTAL

\$800.00

\$200.00

\$330.00

\$750.00

\$800.00

\$200.00

\$610.00

\$750.00

\$800.00

\$1,110.00

\$360.00

\$750.00

\$1,110.00

**Total Miscellaneous** 

**MARCH TOTAL** 

Individuals (10) Total

Churches (6) Total

Metro Faith CC

Osage Hills CC

Shively CC

Dec Balance

Jan Receipts

Jan Sub-Total

Jan Expenses Jan Balance

Individuals (12) Total

Highland Park CC

Churches (6) Total Edmond CC

Metro Faith CC

Osage Hills CC

Shively ĆC

Jan Balance

Feb Receipts

Feb Sub-Total

Feb Expenses

Donors Individuals (12) Total

Churches (7) Total

Highland Park CC

MARCH GRAND TOTAL

Osage Hills CC

Shively CC

Feb Balance

Mar Receipts

Mar Sub-Total

Mar Expenses Mar Balance

Edmond CC

Feb Balance

Donors

Edmond CC

Matt & Angle Crosser Missionaries to Verona, Italy mcrosser@teamexpansion.org

#### **Current Financial Need**

We currently have monthly commitments of \$5,005 raised out of a total need of \$6,976. All we ask is that you prayerfully consider what God might want you to give, and that is between him and you.

This 2008 budget is based on an dollar/euro exchange rate of 1.47%. So far the exchange rate already got to 1.57% in March 2008. That means instead of costing \$1.47 for each euro we spend, it got as high as costing \$1.57 for each euro spent.

#### Ways You Can Help

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

- 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.
- 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
- 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

Page Three