Vol. 11; No. 1; January 2009

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

Almost Sneezing

Were you ever poised to sneeze and then nothing...it didn't happen? I don't know anyone who likes sneezing, but I'm sure there are plenty of people who don't enjoy NOT sneezing. It seems over the past fourteen months we have been in the states recruiting, support raising and preparing that we have had many "almost sneezes". Now, I'm not comparing going to the mission field as sneezing, but I am comparing the uncomfortable feeling of not sneezing with having a target date, only to push it back. The great thing is that each time it gets closer and closer. If we getting further from our goals I might be tempted to worry, but each time it feels like the next target date is the one.

As I stated in our newsletter last month, we are waiting on one time funds and as soon as we raise them will enter a three month departure phase, filled with contacting Verona real estate offices, visiting consulates, procuring visas, packing and final visits to our supporting churches. Since then we have moved even closer to our monthly and one time goals. We went from 90% of our monthly financial goal to 94% being committed. We also went from having \$15,000 out of \$28,521 raised to having 22,550 out of \$28,521 raised! That means we only need \$5,971 in one time gifts and we can move forward with departure!!! That feels so close. So what that means is that if we raise this by the end of February, we will be planning to move around the end of May. April Houk would be joining us the following month and our other team members as God prepares them.

Would you pray with us that the remainder of our one time need would come in God's timing? Would you pray that the remaining 6% of our monthly funds would be committed so that we would be 100% for the first time upon departing for the field? Pray a prayer of thanks that God has brought so much partnership to this ministry, we are not in this alone and are so thankful for every part you play! God uses each one of us as we spread His message around the globe. Thank you for your prayer and support.

In Christ, Matt & Angie

Support Update

Below is our current support figures...

We have..

- ...\$22,550 out of \$28,521 towards our one time needs; this leaves a need of \$5,971.
- ...\$6,550 out of \$6,976 in monthly commitments; this leaves \$426 in monthly commitments needed.





Matt & Angie Crosser

From Int'l Services

A Note from Team Expansion's President:



THE POWER OF 'TOGETHER' -- Have you ever felt 'alone in a crowd'? I remember once, as a kid attending the Indy 500 qualifications, a cloud-bursting thunderstorm caused a mob reaction that ended up separating me from the family hosting me at the event. I was 'alone in a crowd' of some

Doug Lucas 400,000 people. Yikes. Nightmarish.

Missions used to be kind of like that. Some folks went to the field with their clothing packed up in their coffins. Thankfully, times have changed. Better communication, better training, and most of all, better camaraderie. Many Team Expansion workers say that their #1 reason for joining up is *community*. In short, they don't have to go it alone. When you support the work of your favorite Team Expansion missionary, the cool part is, you're supporting the work of a team operation. After all, Jesus prayed (in John 17) that we would all be "one" so that the world would be "won." I'm excited to tell you that, these days, I feel we're a lot closer to that prayer's fulfillment than ever

Thank you for your support... and may God bless your 2009.

Doug Lucas President, Team Expansion

Prayer Highlights

Answered Prayer -

- ~ Increases in monthly commitments to 94%.
- ~ Receipt of one time funds towards total need.
- ~ Eatons and Brandi Davis attended Missions Training International in Colorado Springs.

Verona Team Prayer -

Team members; the Blackburn family, April Houk, the Eatons and Brandi Davis, as they prepare and support raise for the Verona work. ~ Pray for our team to grow in relationships and

Prayers for Italians -

- ~ People we've met in Verona: Lucia, Pasquale, Giovanni, Ellie and Felice.
- ~ Pray for the people of Verona to desire to know
- ~ Pray for the eight neighborhoods of Verona to seek Christ.

Prayers for Us -

- ~ Pray for remainder of one time funds to come in.
- ~ Presentations and Visits with supporters.
- ~ Pray for monthly financial commitments to be at 100%.
- ~ Our living permits to be done.

Ancona Team Prayer -

- ~ Pray for the team to grow spritiually
- ~ Pray for the church to grow

Ask about our bi-monthly prayer update list.



Matt teaching at Ozark Christian College in one of Jason Casey's missions classes.

Our Timeline By January we will have determined if an extension will be necessary.



In the United States (present)

In Verona (May 31, 2009*)

* Our target dates depend on receipt of one time funds

Taking Christ To Italy: Go Verona



Matt & Angie Crosser Missionaries to Verona, Italy

mcrosser@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 Crosser April Houk John & Ann Blackburn Brandon & Savannah Eaton **Brandi Davis**

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.. 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

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Finances

Team Expansion: Matt and Angie Crosser
Monthly Expense Recap For
December 2008

Benefits	TOTAL
100 · Salary 111 · Special Medical Expense 130 · Social Security 150 · Housing Allowance 160 · Utilities 180 · Contributions Total Benefits	3,651.37 37.35 341.12 485.00 303.63 52.00 4,870.47
Education 200 · Books/Periodicals Total Education	339.70 339.70
Christian Education 320 · Hospitality Total Christian Education	257.71 257.71
Postage 550 · In the States Total Postage	17.81 17.81
Office 600 · Supplies In the Field 650 · Supplies in the States 661 · E-Mail Total Office	107.50 391.10 47.58 546.18
Promotion/Representation 700 · For More Support 710 · For More Recruits 730 · Reporting to Supporters 740 · Home Office Total Promotion/Representation	100.00
Travel 800 · Car/Transportation 810 · Meals While Traveling 830 · Housing While Traveling 870 · Misc. Expenses Total Travel	406.65 155.33 464.09 2,005.95* 3,032.02
Miscellaneous 900 · Unspecified Equipment 920 · Banking Fees 930 · Mission House Total Miscellaneous	1,401.64 2.07 5.39 1,409.10
TOTAL	10,958.54

Monthly Receipts Recap December 2008

Donors	Amount
Individuals (9) Total Churches (8) Total	\$1,388.00 \$9,510.00
Edmond CC (\$5,800.00 First CC - Kenosha(\$1,000.00)
First CC - Sapulpa (\$200.00 Metro Faith CC (\$400.00	,
Osage Hills CC (\$410.00 Sandusky Ave CC (\$100.00	
Shively CC (\$750.00)
Sunnybrook CC (\$850.00 DEC Receipts SUB TOTAL) \$10,898.00
Reimbursements DEC GRAND TOTAL	\$165.84 \$11,063.84

Nov Balance	\$ 8,266.83
Dec Receipts	+\$11,063.084
Dec Sub-Total	\$ 19,330.67
Dec Expenses	<u>-\$ 10,958.54</u>
Dec Balance	\$ 8,372.13

Thanks for your contributions through financial giving and prayers!



Matt & Angie Crosser

Missionaries to Verona, Italy mcrosser@teamexpansion.org

Current Financial Need

We currently have monthly commitments of \$6,550 raised out of a total need of \$6,976. All we ask is that you prayerfully consider what God might want you to give. Let us know if you want to commit towards this needed amount.

This 2008 budget is based on an dollar/euro exchange rate of 1.47%.

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 and your special gifts help weather the storms the enemy throws at us as well as prepare for the new city.
- 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.

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* This includes 4 months rent on a storage facility in

Ancona, Italy.