Vol. 11; No. 4; May 2009

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

Winding Down, Looking Back Support Update

Exactly ten years ago, we were approached about joining Team Expansion and a team going to Italy to plant three churches. Within a few short days we decided to follow God's calling and our lives were turned upside down.

In exactly one month, we return to Italy, this time to Verona. We will begin laying the groundwork for planting the second church plant in Verona, Italy. Some of you have been with us since the beginning, others of you have just partnered with us within the last month. For whichever describes you, we are thankful to have you on board.

Several items to report as we make our way through this last month of preparation. On May 14th, it will have been three weeks since we applied for our visas to enter Italy. We were told 7-10 days, assuming those were business days, by the 14th it will have been 15 days. We have called and left messages over several days, only to hear nothing. Will you fervently pray for this necessity in order to leave for Italy.

A couple weeks ago, we mailed signed apartment contracts. We are still waiting for the landlord to sign them. I believe this is a formality, especially since our real estate agents were writing us about getting our utilities turned on.

We can now accept donations online. We are using Google checkout, so it is secure, but they do take their 1% or so cut. If you would like to contribute to this ministry online just visit our website at www.thecrossers.com and find the donate button!

Two years ago this August, I created budgets for our team to use in planning and preparing for the work in Verona. Some of it was very exact, much of it was very fluid. For instance, we researched apartment rental pricing, but without knowing what God would make available and where in the city He would guide us, we didn't have exact figures. We learned while doing research for our apartment, as well as April's, that we will need to raise the budget for housing by 20 percent to accommodate team families in the city of Verona. Also, because we were unaware how long we would stay in the states, we didn't anticipate the need to reapply for visas and buy new return tickets to Italy (our return tickets expired after one year in the states). In the past few weeks we finished raising the amount we had budgeted for startup expenses. As we make our way to Verona, it would be unwise to ignore the unexpected changes in our finances. So, we will begin posting the need to help offset these and other expenses. We will update you as we receive funds towards these special needs.

Would you pray for the remaining 7% of our monthly funds? Thanks for praying for our final month in the states. We are thankful for the part you play in this ministry.

In Christ, Matt & Angie

Below is our current support figures...

We have..

...\$6,450 out of \$6,976 in monthly commitments; this leaves \$526 in monthly commitments needed.

We need the following to offset unexpected expenses:

- ...\$1,200 Visa trip to Houston (including legal charges)
- ...\$3,500 Income taxes*
- ...\$375 Passport renewal**
- ...\$1,200 replacement return airfare
- ...\$ 850 Difference between actual deposits/agency fees and budgeted.
- *Taxes incurred due to remaining in the states past June of 2008.
- ** Because we had to reapply for visas, we had to renew our US passports that don't actually expire until Feb 2010, but had to be valid for 3 months past the year long visa we are requesting.





Taking Christ To Italy: Go Verona

Matt & Angie Crosser

From Int'l Services

A Note from Team Expansion's President:



Doug Lucas

Dear friend of a Team Expansion worker,

Thank you for your support of the work of a Team Expansion missionary! Without your faithful partnership, we cannot imagine how we could continue on. But *with* your help, God is doing amazing things! Here's just one example: In one of Team Expansion's fields, a Muslim land, Muslims outnumber believers 25,000 to 1. Changing from Islam to any other religion is frowned upon and even punished by local cultural norms... yet in spite of that, there have been 20 baptisms in the last year alone. What's more, some 30,000 people have stopped by our team's website there and our team created 12,000 evangelistic DVDs for distribution to new friends. They finished the translation of four additional books

of the New Testament into the local dialect.

None of this could happen without your help. So *thank* you for your support, your friendship, and the steps you take on behalf of the Master. May He bless your lives richly with zeal and fire to forge on.

Sincerely, Doug Lucas President, Team Expansion



Our Timeline



In the United States - for departure stage (present)

In Verona

(June 8, 2009*)
* Our departure date depends on visas being approved

Taking Christ To Italy: Go Verona

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



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 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

Next Month we will update you with our new address in Verona!

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 April 2009**

	IOIAL
Benefits	
100 · Salary	1,749.78
111 · Special Med Exp	3.87
130 Social Security	1,240.00
150 Housing Allow	632.87
180 · Contributions	52.00
Total Benefits	3,678.52

Education

Total Education	358.98
220 · Conf/Classes	150.24
200 · Books/Periodicals	208.74

Christian Education

320 · Hospitality	220.75
Total Christian Education	220.75

Postage

500 · In the Field	56.30
Total Postage	56.30

Office

Total Office	859.44
661 · E-Mail	66.00
660 · Mission Phone	128.44
650 · Supplies in States	446.61
600 · Supplies In Field	218.39

Promotion/Representation

Total Promo/Represent.	88.01
730 · Report to Supporte	rs 9.95
720 · Newsletters	30.06
700 · For More Support	48.00

Travel

Total Travel	3,114.91
860 · Air Fare	1,966.48
840 · Legal(Travel F	ees) 462.22
820 · Fees/Tolls	2.00
810 · Meals W/Trave	eling 125.79
806 · Vehicle Maint.	140.95
800 Car/Transport.	417.47

Miscellaneous

Total Miscellaneous	7,037.24
930 · Mission House	5,701.36
920 · Banking Fees	70.00
900 · UnspecifiedEquip	1,265.88

TOTAL 15,414.15

Monthly Receipts Recap April 2009

Donors	Amount
Individuals (17) Churches (7) Edmond CC (\$800.00)	\$1,316.00 \$4,813.48
First CC - Sapulpa (\$400.00) Highland Park CC (\$1,110.00) Osage Hills CC (\$480.00) Sandusky Ave CC (\$423.48) Shively CC (\$750.00) Sunnybrook CC (\$850.00)	

APR Receipts TOTAL

\$11,620.00

APRIL LEDGER

Mar Balance	\$ 15,431.62
Apr Receipts	+\$6,129.48
Apr Sub-Total	\$ 21,561.10
Apr Expenses	\$ 15,414.15
Apr Balance	\$ 6,146.95

Due to airfare and planned apartment deposits and June rent on our new apartment in Verona, you can see that we are already using the startup funds that we have been raising. Thanks for your contributions through financial giving and prayers!

Prayer Highlights

Current Prayer Highlights:

Answered Prayer -

- ~ Monthly commitments is 93%.
- ~ Departing phase is going smoothly.

Verona Team Prayer -

- ~ Stateside Team members as they prepare and support raise.
- ~ April Houk, as she prepares for departure June 24th.
- ~ Pray for April's apartment locating process.
- ~ Pray for our team to grow in relationships and unity.

Prayers for Italians -

- ~ People met in Verona (Lucia, Pasquale, Giovanni, Ellie, Felice)
- ~ Pray for the people of Verona to desire to know Christ.
- ~ Pray for our real estate agents (Elio, Roberta & Giulia).

Prayers for Us -

- ~ Pray for our final month in America.
- ~ Pray for 100% in monthly financial commitments.
- ~ Our new visas to be finished quickly.
- ~ Our apt in Verona to be finalized; waiting on landlord signature.

Ancona Team Prayer -

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

Ask to added to our bi-monthly prayer update list.



Matt & Angle 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 2009 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 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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