



MATT & ANGIE CROSSER ARTIST MISSIONARY

August 2010 ~ Vol. 12, No. 3

Send tax deductible donations to:

Team Expansion (NEW ADDRESS)
12129 E 25th ST
TULSA OK 74129

*For IRS tax purposes, do not put
our names anywhere on the check!*

mcrosser@teamexpansion.org

918.398.9351
918.850.9828

Team Expansion's Mission Statement
*Transforming communities by planting
churches among the unreached.*

Team Expansion's Purpose
*Throughout the history of Team
Expansion, our purpose has remained
the same – to work together in teams in
order to establish viable, multiplying
communities of believers in some of the
least reached places on the earth.
Simply, we are church planters.*

Team Expansion Statistics
*Team Expansion currently includes
more than 300 workers serving in more
than 40 countries. To date, we've
planted more than 180 churches and
baptized more than 10,000 believers
around the world.*

What Can You Say

At our prayer partners' home in 2003, they innocently asked, "so what does a forwarding agent do?" Now seven years later, we find ourselves wondering, how to tell them thank you for seven years of first-class volunteerism? Last month, we said farewell to Milton & Elizabeth Hendricks as our Forwarding Agents since. In August, they passed the reins back to us after seven years of dedicated service, so that they may pursue other ways to serve God. Milton will still partner with me on various creative projects, but for now the forwarding agent duties fall to us. Would you mind writing them at moremail@valornet.com to tell them how much you appreciate what they have done for this ministry. I know it will be a blessing. One of the things that we have appreciated about the Hendricks' partnership was that they have owned this ministry. It wasn't only to help me & Angie, it was as much about themselves reaching the lost with the gospel and how to play a part. So, join us in saying thank you to the Hendricks and be prepared next time you ask about a role in missions, because it might just be you that is called to fill the shoes! Thanks Milton and Elizabeth for your great sacrifice.

We were happy to visit with one of our supporting churches in the month of August, Edmond Christian Church. We got to share in detail exactly what God has in store for us in this role fulfilling the mission that Team Expansion has for expanding God's kingdom. If you financially support our work, have partnered with us in prayer or are intensely interested in what God has us doing for his kingdom, drop us a line via email or call to set up a lunch or visit. We

are more than happy to meet with our supporting churches and their various groups as well (youth & small groups, Sunday School classes, etc...).

We have yet to raise all the funds for our trip to Italy. The cost has gotten smaller though, if we had made the trip months ago, it would have cost more than \$20,000. That included six months' rent to honor our contract. After some gifts and reducing the total monthly, the trip will now cost \$10,000. That's still hefty, but less than when we began.

Taking the trip is necessary for several reasons. First of all, we need to take the time to interact with the Verona team. In good or bad situations, it is difficult when a family leaves the field. As team leader, we know that it was a big impact on our former team. This is an opportunity to come together and see how God has worked through this tumultuous situation. The trip is necessary so that we may get closure. The ability to say goodbye to our past work and future dreams. We want to spend time with Italian friends and in person, show them how God can and has worked in tragedy. And finally the trip is necessary because we need to pack our personal and ministry things, then close out our contracts - rental and utilities.

Among our personal and ministry things, we have years of resources and tools that we have gathered, created, purchased and been given. There are several thousand dollars worth of video equipment, computers, software and devices. All these items will be used in our current ministry to the fullest. We have been handicapped... (continued on page two)

FIND US ON ONLINE



Find Matt on Twitter and Facebook:
Twitter: <http://twitter.com/mccrosser>
Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/mattcrosser>



The Crossers Life - about our life and ministry
Blog: <http://www.thecrossersblog.com>
Twitter: <http://twitter.com/thecrossers>
Facebook: <http://bit.ly/thecrosserslifeonfb>



Matt's Sketch Pad - highlighting various personal and ministry art projects
Blog: <http://www.mattsketchpad.com>
Twitter: <http://twitter.com/mattsketchpad>
Facebook: <http://bit.ly/mattsketchesonfb>



Notes from the President



"Thank you for your gift to God through Team Expansion." Notice the way I've worded that opening statement -- because, frankly, we never want to confuse the issue. Your donation to God is just that: a donation to the Lord, not to man. The fact that you chose to channel your gift through Team Expansion is, for us, a sacred trust. It demands that we enter into a covenant with you -- a covenant to utilize your gift as a launching pad for getting the words of the Bible out of the Bible and into the hearts, hands, and heads of unreached peoples all over the world.

"Transforming communities by planting churches among the unreached" is more than a vision statement to us. It's a contract. We pledge to do our part because you gave your gift to God through us... and we commit to maximizing the impact of that gift among those who have never had a chance to say yes to Jesus.

Gratefully yours,
Doug Lucas,
President -- DLucas@TeamExpansion.org

Prayer Requests & Praises

- *Pray for the funds for our trip to Italy to come in fully.
- * Pray as Matt develops a new VBS curriculum for Team Expansion to be launched in 2011.
- * Pray as Matt creates a new Team Expansion website for kids.
- * Pray for Matt as he redubs the audio on 32 kids' videos to be used in a closed country.
- * Pray while Matt works on brand new kids' videos and curriculum to be used around the world.
- * Pray as Matt works on logos, promotional materials and for the people that will see them in foreign fields.
- * Pray for Matt & Angie as they live with Matt's brother, Kevin, caring for him and his kids while he recovers from Traumatic Brain Injury.
- * Pray for Angie as she does daily needed tasks that keep the nuts and bolts of our lives going.
- *Pray for Angie as she teaches children in preschool.
- * Pray for us to be leaders in our family, church and community.

Let us know if you want to be a Prayer Partner for this new role in missions!

(continued from page one article)
...during this past year, because we did not have them. As Angie worked with preschoolers in Italy as an outreach, we have made it possible so that she could do so here in the states again, twice weekly. She has accrued or created tools, resources and books for use in preschool over eighteen years or more of working in preschool.

With our things, we have several thousand dollars' worth of books. These include resource books acquired during our years at Ozark (i.e. commentaries, references), a couple hundred art books (reference/artistic studies), books from a closed church library, our own personal books for enrichment and study, and finally books given to me by Grandma before she died for use in ministry.

Besides books, we have hundreds of dollars in puppets (bought, given and created by us) - these can be used in future VBS programs or video teaching tools that we create. There are many more items, none the least of which are very personal items such as our wedding photos, yearbooks, family heirloom ornaments, etc... When we went to the field, we assumed there would come a day when we would return. We have faith that the same church body which sent us would also bring us home. We have sought out many options and continue to do so. If you would like to contribute to this need, we would more than appreciate it.

In August, we got the opportunity to go to Willow Creek's Global Leadership summit. Fortunately for us, they have hundred's of satellite facilities around the world airing the summit at the same time. We went with around 30 leaders from Highland Park Christian Church and got to hear a very relevant, much needed message. Pastor/author Jeff Manion spoke on a topic from a book he wrote, called "The Land Between". It's about 'finding God in difficult transitions'. If you find yourself asking questions and looking for God in a difficult time, check out this book, it's more than worth it!

As we said thank you to the Hendricks for their help to the ministry that God has called us, we should also take this time to thank you too. Even before Milton and Elizabeth were forwarding agents, they were prayer partners, just as many of you have been involved in and supported our ministry for years! Thanks. For those of you who have stepped out in faith and recently started partnering with us, we also want to say thanks. We hope to partner with you in this mission for a long time. Let us know if you would like to be more involved, want to start financially supporting us or join our prayer partners in laying foundations for this work. Thanks in advance!

In Christ, Matt & Angie

Monthly Finances

Monthly Expense Recap For July 2010

Benefits	
100 · Salary	1,916.25
111 · Special Med Exp	50.00
120 · Life Insurance	140.49
130 · Social Security	550.00
150 · Housing Allowance	1,418.90
180 · Contributions	38.00
Education	
200 · Books/Periodicals	156.86
220 · Conferences/Classes	150.24
240 · Equipping Missionaries	199.75
Christian Education	
320 · Hospitality	46.14
Postage	
550 · In the States	39.99
Office	
600 · Supplies In the Field	50.00
650 · Supplies in States	234.13
660 · Mission Phone	53.38
661 · E-Mail	123.78
Promotion/Representation	
700 · For More Support	109.87
720 · Newsletters	195.52
730 · Reporting to Supporters	39.95
740 · Home Office	100.00
Travel	
800 · Car/Transportation	107.17
Miscellaneous	
900 · Unspecified Equipment	300.00
920 · Banking Fees	37.00
TOTAL	6,057.42

Monthly Receipts Recap For July 2010

	Total
Individuals (9)	\$517.68
Churches (5)	\$2730.00
FCC - Sapulpa	200.00
Highland Park CC	1,060.00
Osage Hills CC	370.00
Sunnybrook CC	900.00
Woodland CC	200.00
TOTAL	\$3,247.68

Running Ledger

June 2010 Balance	-\$401.62
July 2010 Receipts	+3,247.68
July 2010 Sub-Total	\$2,846.06
July 2010 Expenses	-\$6,057.42
July 2010 Balance	-\$ 3,211.36

note: Sometimes, as now, you may see a negative balance in our ending ledger. This is normally due to the calendar and when donations come in (or are recorded) and when debits go out. It is not actually a negative balance in our physical bank account.

Creative Arts Team

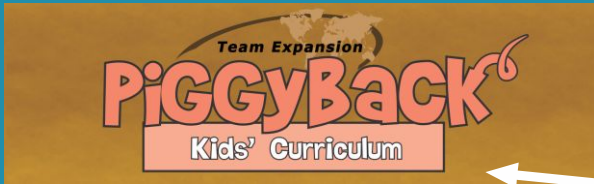
Please pray for the other members of Team Expansion International Service's staff. Lift up in the prayer the projects that the other members of the Creative Arts team are working on.

Shauna Peterson
Carla Cassel
Nathan Holt
Betty Byrd - director

Please pray for them as you pray for us!

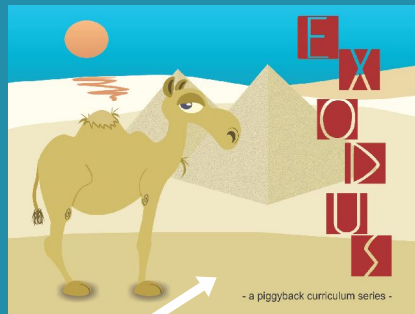
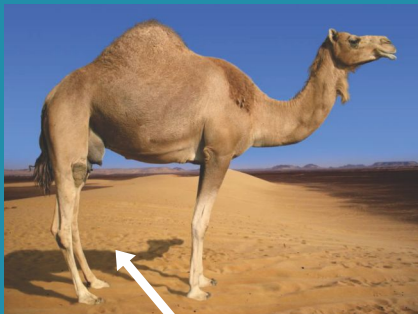
Project Showcase

We will use this space to highlight several of the projects that we are working on. Some will be short term projects for Missions use overseas or stateside, some will be major projects that either are used overseas or as a promotional tool for use in the states. We'll try to include some info about each of the projects that we highlight! While looking at the various projects and reading the information, we ask you to pray for the different people that are touched by each project, whether it is a trainee or non-believer. Use this page as a guide to pray for the projects we are doing! Let us know if you want to be on our email update list or to be more involved to join our prayer partner email update list.



This is the name and logo for the children's curriculum that we will be working on over the next years. The next series will hopefully be finished by mid 2011.

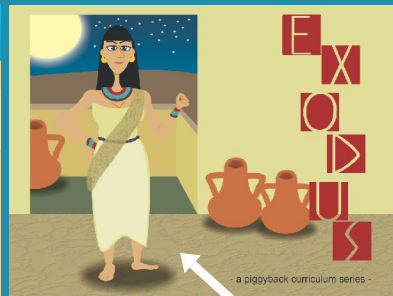
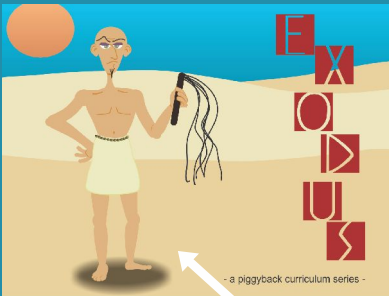
This curriculum will be designed so that it is easier to translate and publish than the average curriculum available in the states. It will be made available to any of our 300 missionaries around the world and will be free to use.



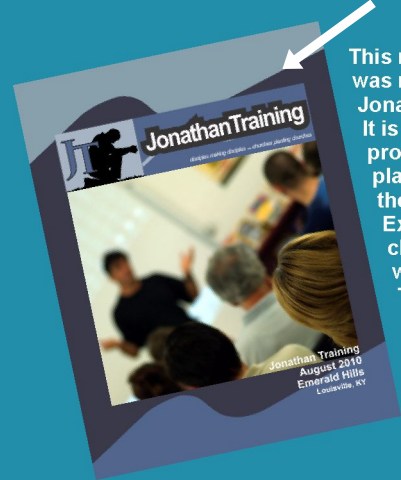
Our old curriculum packages are in the process of being translated back into English. Once that's done, we'll have the books of John & Judges, and the story of Creation available for free use. We are currently working on our next series, which is on the book of Exodus. You can see above an animal study as I used the reference photo of the camel to get an idea what the animals within the study would end up looking like.

Before I can dive into creating the individual lessons, we have to do much research about ancient Egypt and the Jews during that time period. What did they dress like? How did they furnish their homes? What did they eat? Which animals lived in that area during that time period? These are some of the many questions that we have to consider when we are creating images from Bible times.

In the early stages of curriculum design, I go through the entire text, in this case, the book of Exodus and choose where each story will begin and end. I don't like to skip sections when I am doing a book study, so it all goes in somewhere.



One of the other key steps is to do character design. What do certain people like Moses, Pharaoh or Aaron look like throughout the book, and throughout their life. And I also come up with various generic people. Above you can see a couple designs as well as backgrounds behind them!



This notebook cover was made for Jonathan Training. It is a training program for church planters around the world. Team Expansion is closely involved with Jonathan Training and in August, our home office hosted a two week training session.

Also, I have been working on a logo for Jonathan Training. Due to the sensitive nature of some of the fields and the desire to compactly and accurately describe the program in the logo itself, so here are some of the logos that have gone by the wayside in the search for the perfect logo for this pertinent and compelling training program.



Another thing that I do is business cards. Whether it is for our own use or others in the Team Expansion family, my goal is to create a memorable design!

