

MATT & ANGIE CROSSER
ARTIST MISSIONARY

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Send tax deductible donations to:

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For IRS tax purposes, our names cannot appear anywhere on the check!

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**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.

## The Hospital, a Fire and Shingles

In January's newsletter, we shared with you about most of the family getting the flu during the blizzard. As we approached the end of the week, things were looking up. Everyone's fevers had subsided and the nurses were able to start showing up due to the snow melting. I saw the light at the end of the tunnel. Things were turning normal once more. Then another emotional tornado took place. My brother, Kevin, had started coughing and breathing with difficulty. We tried everything in our medical 'toolbox' to resolve it, but nothing worked it only got worse. After six hours of hard continuous coughing and exhausting all our home options we had to call an ambulance. Snow was still two to three feet high outside and we barely had a walkway. Firemen and Paramedics showed up invading our once peaceful home. What began was a two week spiral in the ICU at St John's Hospital. His O2 was dropping, his bp was too low, heartrate too high, potassium dangerously high and blood way too thin. He was put on septic protocol and the culprit was pneumonia that showed up suddenly. After two weeks he healed up enough for us to take him home and we thought things might get back to normal. We were wrong.

Two days after bringing Kevin home, we had a fire in our circuit breaker. There was little fire damage, but much smoke damage and bad odor throughout the house, especially in Jacob's room where the circuit breaker was located. The smell and smoke damage made it down the hall and into the living room where Kevin's bed is. For three weeks we were 'homeless' but the five of us stayed at my brother, Greg's house. Kevin's nurses even had to come there for their

shifts. A little after getting to Greg's I noticed some strange pain. It turned out I had shingles....and bronchitis. I had to start taking antiviral and antibiotic medicine. Probably my body and mind is a little over stressed weakening my immune system and making me susceptible to anything that comes my way.

Team Expansion

We had to get an electrician to install a new circuit breaker, which was turned on a few days ago. The odor removal and restoration work is almost done and we can move back home around the first of March. Will things become more normal then? Or is chaos the new normal? God will supply all we need.

I have been continuing to work on the new VBS curriculum that I am developing for Team Expansion, specifically the sample packet that churches can request to get an idea what JUMP VBS is all about. Check out the special Project Showcase on the next page that highlights more of the curriculum.

We're still looking for finances for the office space in the ministry building behind Highland Park Christian Church. I will be using it for an office and the church will make use of it as a High School Sunday School class among other things. Please pray for the funds to come in for carpet and that I could get my office set up soon. It will go a long way toward stabilization. Thanks for partnering with us, your prayer and financial support mean so much!

In Christ, Matt & Angie

#### FIND US ON ONLINE



Find Matt on Twitter and Facebook:
Twitter: http://twitter.com/mcrosser
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

Dear "Fellow-worker,"

That phrase, "fellow-worker" is a special phrase in the New Testament. It is used in several passages and it always speaks toward the concept that those who support a missionary are equally involved in the mission. Take III John for instance. The word translated "fellow-worker" (one who "shows hospitality", III John 8) there in several translations is a term that can mean give food, offer housing, give money, and even "accompany" (as in, accompany the person to the next town). By becoming involved in this way with the traveler, John says we "work together for the truth" (also vs. 8).

So when you help your favorite Team Expansion missionary "on a journey for His name's sake," you're doing a lot more than a "good turn." You're actually participating in the work -- in a very real way. For that, we are all very grateful -- the organization, the worker, and the people being reached! Thank you!!!

Doug Lucas President, Team Expansion

#### Our Team Creative Arts

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!

## Representative Elders

Jimmy Foreman

Sandusky Avenue Christian Church

Jayson & Janice French Christ In Youth

# Pastors of Encouragement

John & Judy Webb

Hope International University

#### **Monthly Finances**

Monthly Expense Recap For January 2011		Miscellaneous 900 · Unspecified Equipment	498.69
Benefits		TOTAL	3,482.77
100 · Salary	1,326.03		
111 · Special Medical Expense	234.62		
130 · Social Security	550.00	Monthly Receipts Recap For December 2010	
180 · Contributions	38.00		Total
Education		Individuals (2)	\$285.00
200 · Books/Periodicals	107.01		
220 · Conferences/Classes	150.24	Churches (3)	\$3200.00
Christian Education		FCC - Sapulpa 200.00	
320 · Hospitality	17.24	Highland Park CC 2,100.00	
Office		Sunnybrook CC 900.00	
650 · Supplies in the States	392.41	TOTAL	\$3,200.00
660 Mission Phone	78.48		
661 · E-Mail	35.00	Running Ledger	
Promotion/Representation		Dec 2010 Balance	\$- 7,319.98
700 · For More Support	9.95	Jan 2011 Receipts	+3,200.00
Travel		Jan 2011 Sub-Total	\$ -4,119.98
800 · Car/Transportation	45.10	Jan 2011 Expenses	\$3,482.77
		Jan 2011 Balance	\$-7,602.75

### **Project Showcase**

Rather than show actual artwork from our projects this month, we wanted to show some of the details of the upcoming JUMP VBS material we are developing for Team Expansion.

This is designed to be all you need, however the modules are designed to fit into your program. Use them all, or pick which ones you need. If you already have a complete VBS program, you can use our Daily Stories for your missions moments.

Here are descriptions of some of the modules available in the JUMP VBS curriculum:

Daily Stories - Each day there is a dramatic story based on biblical principles and highlighting different kinds of mission opportunities around the world. These include medical and urban missions, etc. The room the story is told in is decorated to support the type of mission being shared.

Crafts - Each day will have a topic that coincides with the story. To reinforce these new concepts the crafts will be tailored to remind, challenge and put into action that day's topic. One craft will include creating a daily devotional that can be used long after VBS is over.

Opening/Closing - At the start and close of each day, there will be times for everyone to gather together. Supercharged with colorful characters and skits the opening will launch the day's activities and the closing will tie up the day's events. Skits and ideas will be provided to make the best use of this time together.

Worship Suggestions - Instead of giving you materials for worship, we'll be providing suggestions/resources to plug into your worship times.

Handouts - Every day there will be handouts for you to copy and pass out. These will reinforce the lessons they learned at VBS through games, reminders and resources.

Daily Actions - Jump in! Each day will have an action challenge, like bringing cans for a local food drive, gathering medical supplies for use in mission clinics, etc.

- more coming next month -

#### Prayer (Requests & Praises)

- \* Pray for money to come in for my office space (it's approximately \$800-1000)
- \* Pray for our home to be a refuge and safe place.
- \* Pray for money to come in, offsetting the loan which enabled our trip to Italy last October.
- \* Pray as we continue to develop a new VBS curriculum for Team Expansion to be launched in 2011.
- \* Pray as we create a new Team Expansion website for kids.
- \* Pray for us as we redub the audio on 32 kids' videos to be used in a closed country.
- \* Pray while we work on brand new kids' videos and curriculum to be used around the world.
- \* Pray as Matt does logos, promotional materials & for the people that will see them in foreign lands.
- \* 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, as well as 24 hour nursing approval.
- \* 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.
- \* Give thanks for the increased healing of Matt's back in large part to custom insoles he got in Dec.

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