

MATT & ANGIE CROSSER
ARTIST MISSIONARY

August 2011 ~ Vol. 13, No. 8

Team Expansion

Send tax deductible donations to:

Team Expansion 12129 E 25th ST TULSA OK 74129

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

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918.398.9351 918.850.9828

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

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.

It's the Circle of Life

Remember the song from Lion King, Circle of Life? I have been experiencing that lately. My life already felt a little like that. I lived with my brother Kevin after High School. Then I moved to Joplin to go to OCC, then to Italy. Now, I'm back in the same zip code, same house. Circle of Life? Now our nephew Jacob, who lives with us, is attending Tulsa Tech during his last two years of High School. He's taking Aviation Maintenance Technology (aka plane mechanics). I did the same thing, about twenty years ago. Before school

started, we took Jacob to the school info night and I was happy to see one of my old instructors! He was happy to see me too. He told me that he still kept drawings that I had made for him in class and that some had made it into his class presentations. One of the things I remember about him, was that he was a Christian. He asked me how I was doing and I told him the short version of our life in Italy and about using art as a



Sometimes, instead of my art desk, I use the table in my office to see the entire spread of drawings I am working on.

Drawings from a curriculum I'm doing for a secure field. Upper left shows initial pencil sketches, bottom right is the final illustration.



missionary there. I told him of the role we play as caretakers for my brother, Kevin. Then I shared how I am an artist missionary now, taking my artistic gift and making it available to over 300 missionaries around the world. He was so excited to hear it. With a big smile, he remarked, "So you did it? You know, I remember encouraging you into doing art ministry because it was how God had gifted you." After High School, I could have continued on to finish Aviation Maintenance, but I dropped it. I felt God wanted to use me in vocational ministry. I knew that God wanted me to use the artistic talents that God had given me for his kingdom. I went on to Ozark and started the path God had intended. I appreciated the reminder of a time when I was searching for what to do and how God used a mentor to point me towards the present He had in mind for me. The Circle of Life indeed.

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 - 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-Helper,

Yesterday, I made my annual pilgrimage back to the Jackson County 4H Fair in southern Indiana. You see, each year, on Wednesday of "Fair Week," my mother and I meet for the 1pm "Cooking Demonstration." This year, we actually never even connected by phone to confirm things. I'll admit: As I walked past seemingly endless cow barns and exhibit buildings, I felt just a *tad* of anticipation. But, as I rounded the corner by "St. Peter's Taco House," I spied her sitting there in the exact same seats where we always meet. And the same could be said for the faithful supporters of the work of Team Expansion. For example, in my case, when I see an envelope from Andover, Burlington, or Shively, my mind goes back to all the times those churches (and others too) have faithfully "shown up," even though times have sometimes been tough. Yesterday, I hugged my mom and said, "Thanks for coming." Today, I'm thankful for you, for the faithful prayers and support you send to all of Team **Expansion, to your favorite Team** Expansion missionary, and to unreached people around the globe. May God bless you, now and in the weeks to come.

Thankfully,

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 July 2011 BenefitsBenefits	
100 · Salary	1.262.28
111 · Special Medical Expense	162.50
130 · Social Security	550.00
180 · Contributions	138.00
Education	100.00
200 · Books/Periodicals	138.80
220 · Conferences/Classes	150.24
Christian Education	150.24
	79.21
320 · Hospitality	79.21
Office	
640 · Facility/Utilities	72.00
650 · Supplies in the States	325.57
660 · Mission Phone	47.67
661 · E-Mail	20.00
Promotion/Representation	
700 · For More Support	29.95
720 · Newsletters	20.00
	40.96
730 · Reporting to Supporters	
740 · Home Office	100.00
Travel	
800 · Car/Transportation	257.03

810 · Meals While Traveling 860 · Air Fare Miscellaneous 900 · Unspecified Equipment 920 · Banking Fees TOTAL	52.51 469.80 98.67 35.00 4,050.19
Monthly Receipts Recap For July 2011	Total
Individuals (8)	\$1515.00
Churches (4) Edmond CC 650.00 Highland Park CC 1050.00 Osage Hills CC 250.00 Sunnybrook CC 900.00	\$2850.00
TOTAL	\$4365.00
Running Ledger July Beginning Balance July 2011 Receipts July 2011 Expenses July 2011 Ending Balance	\$ 1854.10 + 4365.00 \$ 6219.10 \$4050.19 \$ 2168.91

Project Showcase

Shown here are several of the illustrations that I have been working on for a children's curriculum that will be used in a secure closed country. The upper right picture shows character design of the "ages" of Abraham for the various depictions I have to make.













for more art projects go to www.mattsketchpad.com

Prayer (Requests & Praises)

- * Pray for all the missionaries using this curriculum.
- * Pray for the children doing the curriculum to learn about God.
- * Pray for Matt's health.
- * Pray for all the art projects that Matt does for missions.
- * Pray for any money for our 2010 Italy move loan.
- * Pray for Matt & Angie as caretakers for Matt's brother, Kevin.
- * Pray for Matt & Angie as they "parent" a niece and nephews.
- * Pray Kevin to stay out of the hospital for now. He's had four admissions this year. Last year, he had none!
- * Pray for Kevin to recover from traumatic brain injuries.
- * Pray for Angie as a homemaker and preschool teacher.
- * Pray for us to be leaders in our family, church and community.

imail us if you want to be a Prayer Partner!

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