

MATT & ANGIE CROSSER
ARTIST MISSIONARY

December 2011 ~ Vol. 13, No. 12

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!

mcrosser@teamexpansion.org

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.

## **Goal Review and Planning**

Let me start by asking you a question. How many times have you completed a purposeful task without planning to do it? For instance, have you ever accidentally filled your car up with gas? Or have you walked into the kitchen grabbed random items and inadvertently created an edible dinner? We must plan to be purposeful.

Throughout our tenure at Team Expansion we have made goals. Before that while working in local churches we made goals. Then annually we have reviewed those goals to see where things stand. This year is no different.

Our Creative Arts team just finished looking at all the goals and tasks we had planned for 2011. This is done by everyone in the different departments of Team Expansion at the same time. We examine what we accomplished and what we didn't. For the tasks we completed we ask if we could have done more.

For the goals we failed to meet, it is important for us to find out why. Was the project too ambitious? Too costly? Was our time managed well? Were expectations too unrealistic?

Then after reviewing our 2011 goals, we looked at next year. What projects are planned for 2012? How do these fit within the overall vision of Team Expansion? What talents has God given us to propel his mission in 2012? In what ways do we need to work together? and so forth.

I look forward to goal review and planning. It helps me evaluate where I'm at in my role in missions and how I can further impact the world. Another aspect I like about the review process is going over all the

things that have been accomplished. I can tell you about a couple of my favorite projects. One is the completion of Jump VBS. It's a full fledged VBS for churches to support Team Expansion missionaries with a focus on worldwide missions. Another favorite this year has been my involvement in children's curriculum that will be used in fields around the world, including secure closed countries.

Team Expansion

In looking at the past year and year to come, I like seeing the big picture of our ministry. This coming year, I look forward to continuing the children's curriculum illustrations, as well as working on several new children's storytelling videos.

Of course, as the year moves along, there will be projects that pop up. Some that are critically last minute and others that we can plan for accordingly.

How's your year looking? Has God used you in ways that you weren't expecting in 2011? What goals would you like to put in place for 2012? In what ways, would you like to be different for God's kingdom by this time next year? Don't just assume that spiritual results happen. Plan for it. Even in our spiritual lives we must plan to be purposeful.

At this time of year, we want to also express how grateful that Angie and I are for your partnership in this ministry. God is using you to help propel his message all over the world. Your prayers are impacting. Your financial support is essential. Your encouragement is meaningful.

Thank you sincerely for partnering with us in this mission role for which God has set us aside.

In Christ, Matt & Angie

#### FIND US ON ONLINE



Find Matt on Twitter and Facebook:
Twitter: http://twitter.com/mcrosser
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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 partner in the Task,

I was thinking today... what makes Team Expansion special? To me, there are several magic ingredients. First, it's the volunteerism. Imagine, if you will, a company that advertised, "Wanted: Full-time representative willing to move his family to a war zone to start a new distribution center from scratch in a place where it is illegal to do so. Oh -- Must raise all funds for salary, [earthly] benefits, and expenses. Guaranteed to experience lots of ambiguity. Must learn a foreign language and culture. Your children's grandparents can always get to know your kids via internet video chats." I wonder how many people would apply to an ad like that... but that is more or less exactly what all Team Expansion missionaries have to do, including your favorite one(s)! Volunteerism, because they believe so strongly in the dream and the dream-maker, is the only rational explanation. Second, it's the camaraderie. Team Expansion team members "tell it like it is," but they do so in love. Makes for a perfect balance. Third, it's the donors, like you, who make this work possible. There are other reasons, but truth is, without you, there's no joy, no dream, no

Thank you for what you do to make the "magic!"

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 November 2011

Benefits	
100 · Salary	1,183.59
111 · Special Medical Expense	310.29
130 · Social Security	550.00
180 · Contributions	158.00
Education	
200 · Books/Periodicals	339.96
Christian Education	
300 · Printed Material	23.16
320 · Hospitality	71.46
Postage	
550 · In the States	9.02
Office	
640 · Facility/Utilities	65.00
650 · Supplies in the States	692.04
660 · Mission Phone	42.15
661 · E-Mail	70.28
Promotion/Representation	
700 · For More Support	58.80
720 · Newsletters	122.54
730 · Reporting to Supporters	71.99
740 · Home Office	100.00

Travel		
800 · Car/Transportation	246.08	
Miscellaneous		
900 · Unspecified Equipment	250.00	
920 · Banking Fees	2.00	
TOTAL	4,366.36	
Monthly Receipts Recap For November 2011		

TOTAL	4,300.30	
Monthly Receipts Recap For November 2011		
	Total	
Individuals (8)	\$495.00	
Churches (5)	\$3300.00	
Edmond ČĆ 650.00		
First CC Sapulpa 100.00		
Highland Park CC 1250.00		
Osage Hills CC 400.00		
Sunnybrook CC 900.00		
TOTAL	\$3795.00	
Running Ledger		
Nov Beginning Balance	\$ 2451.49	
Nov 2011 Receipts	+ 3795.00	
	\$ 6246.49	
Nov 2011 Expenses	- <u>4366.36</u>	
Nov 2011 Ending Balance	\$ 1880.13	

## **Project Showcase**

Here's some graphic work that I have been doing for missionaries in Peru. The final copies will be in English and Spanish. Since I didn't have the Spanish text yet for the cover, I did one in Italian just to see how it would look. On the right: The chains represent sin and the cross unlocks us and gives us freedom.



for more art projects go to www.mattsketchpad.com

### Prayer (Requests & Praises)

- \* Pray for all 2012 goals to come to fruition & impact the world.
- \* Pray Kevin to come home from the hospital. He's had seven admissions this year (about 130 days total).
- \* Pray for Matt's continued health improvement. Still some pain & swelling, but a new med seems to be helping.
- \* Pray for all the art projects that Matt does for missions.
- \* Pray for help to offset our 2010 Italy moving loan.
- \* Pray for Matt & Angie as caretakers for Matt's brother, Kevin.
- \* Pray for Matt & Angie as they "parent" a niece and nephews.
- \* Pray for Kevin to recover from traumatic brain injuries.
  \* Pray for Angle as a homemaker and preschool teacher.
- \* Pray for us to be leaders in our family, church and community.

Email us if you want to be a Prayer Partner!

#### **Mobile Edition**

Would you rather read our newsletter on your phone or tablet? Just scan the QR code below to download a pdf.



**December 20** 

