



MATT & ANGIE CROSSER ARTIST MISSIONARY

May 2012 ~ Vol. 14, No. 5

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

Team Expansion Statistics
Team Expansion currently consists of more than 320 full-time adult workers serving in 48 countries in 72 distinct church planting projects. Team Expansion has planted about 250 churches and has ushered over 12,000 new believers into a relationship with Jesus Christ.

Being USEFUL for Christ

I remember when we Angie and I made the decision to stay here in Tulsa and leave the field in Italy, we had mixed feelings. We were excited about the new role I would have at Team Expansion using art to spread the gospel and supplying resources to missionaries. But getting the chance to help many countries meant we wouldn't have the focus on one country in particular that we love very much, Italy.

This was, of course, natural and we have grown to accept God's sovereign plan and learned better how to trust Him even when we don't understand. However, that doesn't mean burdens for the people in Italy just vanish. So, you can imagine our joy at getting the chance to impact Italy again. Among some of the other places that we are reaching (Peru, Spain, Asia, Venezuela, Africa, etc...) we were asked to develop an evangelistic website for Team Expansion missionaries south of Rome. They are trying to reach the city of Santa Maria delle Mole and we are in the process of building their website. Please pray that we do a great job designing this new website to reach Italians and that it would be efficient in spreading the gospel.

On May 27, I preached at Highland Park Christian Church in Tulsa, Oklahoma. The topic was "Hope for the Useless" and the scriptural reference was the letter to Philemon in the New Testament. If you missed hearing me preach live and want to hear the sermon, just go to www.thecrossers.com/hopeforuseless.mp3 and you can stream it or download it (Let us know if you have any difficulties).

In the sermon, I used an illustration I created about a elementary school recess

ball named Useful. Useful got a hole in him and became useless! Then an old janitor found him, patched him and made him useful once more!

Do you experience that feeling too?



When we are tired, worn out or can't seem to do anything right...we feel useless. Then God comes in through a situation or uses a person to interrupt our self pity and makes us useful once again, just like Onesimus the slave became useful to Philemon after Paul led him to Christ.

Thanks so much for your partnership, prayers and friendship as we attempt to be USEFUL and use Creative Arts to Spread the Gospel.

In Christ,
Matt & Angie

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** - personal and ministry art projects
Blog: <http://www.mattsketchpad.com>
Twitter: <http://twitter.com/mattsketchpad>
Facebook: <http://bit.ly/mattsketchesonfb>

Using Creative Arts to Spread the Gospel



Notes from the President



Dear Partner in Progress,

Volunteerism is alive and well today! Every Team Expansion missionary starts as a Volunteer (raising funds equal to his or her ministry needs plus the money it will take to support the worker's salary). Churches, friends and family members continue to volunteer in many ways by providing food, housing, money, and even accompanying workers in their various outreaches. As a result of all this amazing compassion, literally hundreds of thousands of lives are being impacted for eternal good -- and, we trust, tens of thousands will spend eternity in Heaven instead of Hell. After all, Team Expansion workers baptized 829 new believers last year alone, bringing to 12,479 the total number baptized so far in Team Expansion's history. They also established 28 new churches, allowing our 340 workers in 46 countries to regularly welcome over 13 thousand worshippers worldwide each and every week. We give thanks for God's power, manifested through His Good News, His global force of Team Expansion Volunteers and Team Members, and His Spirit which binds us all together.

Thankful for the chance to serve you,
Doug Lucas
President, Team Expansion

Monthly Finances

Monthly Expense Recap For April 2012

Benefits	
100 · Salary	1,006.16
111 · Special Medical Expense	127.32
130 · Social Security	350.00
Education	
200 · Books/Periodicals	198.28
240 · Equipping Missionaries	65.00
Christian Education	
300 · Printed Material	47.00
320 · Hospitality	216.56
330 · Other	105.26
Postage	
550 · In the States	10.00
Office	
650 · Supplies in the States	354.00
660 · Mission Phone	27.00
661 · E-Mail	84.64
Promotion/Representation	
700 · For More Support	68.98
720 · Newsletters	56.95
730 · Reporting to Supporters	794.16
Travel	

800 · Car/Transportation	273.17
Miscellaneous	
920 · Banking Fees	140.00
TOTAL	3,924.48

Monthly Receipts Recap For April 2012

Individuals (10)	Total
	\$860.00
Churches (5)	\$2900.00
Edmond CC	650.00
First CC Sapulpa	100.00
Highland Park CC	1050.00
Osage Hills CC	200.00
Sunnybrook CC	900.00
TOTAL	\$3760.00

Running Ledger

Apr 2012 Beginning Balance	\$ 1401.92
Apr 2012 Receipts	+ 3760.00
	\$ 5161.92
Apr 2012 Expenses	\$3924.48
Apr 2012 Ending Balance	\$ 1237.44

Project Showcase

The illustrations below are part of a study book that is used in Peru. This material has been published by Standard previously, and there are discussions for it to be republished with the new illustrations.



for more art projects go to www.mattsketchpad.com

USE OUR FREE MISSIONS-FOCUSED VBS!



JUMP VBS is a complete Vacation Bible School produced by Team Expansion to challenge children and adults with a missions centric curriculum.

- Jump comes with:
- daily stories
 - full color handouts
 - crafts
 - colorful characters
 - skits and more!



Contact me at mcrosser@teamexpansion.org to find out how to get your free Jump VBS material!

a team expansion kids resource www.jumpvbs.com

Pray for our team as you pray for us

CREATIVE ARTS TEAM:

- Shauna Peterson
- Carla Cassel
- Nathan Holt
- Betty Byrd - director

REPRESENTATIVE ELDERS:

- Jimmy Foreman
Sandusky Avenue Christian Church, Tulsa, OK

- Jayson & Janice French
Christ In Youth, Joplin, MO

PASTORS OF ENCOURAGEMENT

- John & Judy Webb
Hope International University, Fullerton, CA

Prayer (Requests & Praises)

- * Pray for the Kairos conversion to portable illustrations..
- * Pray for the Outreach Center in Spain and the tasks related.
- * Pray for Peru material's completion & its use for God's glory.
- * Kevin is moving from the hospital to an LTAC specialty hospital. Would you pray for his health & recovery?
- * Pray for Matt's health. Joint pain slowly continuing to improve.
- * 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 Angie 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.



2012

May