



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 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.

MATT & ANGIE CROSSER ARTIST MISSIONARY

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Team Expansion

It's Time to Play the Music...

Since I was a boy, I have loved puppets. I remember playing with them and making all kinds; sock, felt and others. I would perform skits behind a large piece of cardboard for my family. My eyes were glued to the television whenever The Muppets or Sesame Street were on. In Middle School, I joined our church's puppet ministry. Then in High School, I started making my own large puppets, hand sewing them and hot gluing parts on. I even sold some of my creations to various churches and individuals. Then after I graduated, I got the opportunity to lead our church's puppet ministry with my cousin and we expanded and used it all throughout the church and the children's ministry.

For twenty years, this creative aspect of my personality has lay dormant, but I have tapped into it again to expand the future of Jump VBS curriculum. My goal is to create HD downloadable puppet videos that are usable alongside future Jump curriculum.

It takes some time to develop a curriculum. There's research, conceptual art, study, delegation of different tasks, editing, graphic design/development, compiling, publishing and finally promotion. Currently, I am in the very early stages of developing the next Jump VBS material. This new material will be on the life and ministry of Paul the Apostle.

One of the first things I did was draw some conceptual drawings of Paul and how he would look throughout the curriculum. Character design takes time and many sketches, however, Paul came fairly easy for me. When I would close my eyes I had a very specific image of Paul under the water after his shipwreck holding his breath

with a look of alarm. This became the defining image for me and I proceeded to sketch him out.

After that, I started working on a puppet version. To do this, I had to study modern methods of foam puppet building. When I made my own puppets before, I was using some resources, but mainly making my own style since this was all before the internet and puppet building helps were scarce. For this project, among other things, I have learned the "Henson Stitch" made popular by the late Jim Henson, creator of the Muppets.



Paul, looking waterlogged.

So, I still have a ways to go in turning Paul into a puppet, but here's what I have done so far.

Churches are still using, downloading and buying print versions of the first Jump VBS curriculum and



The puppetization of Paul

this new material will enlarge the resources. Pray for this missions focused material along with all the other projects I'm working on right now! Pray for us as we 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 Brothers and Sisters,

Each spring, I'm honored to gather together with the heads of 7 other organizations. I generally feel like a lion in a "den of Daniels." We don't have a Development Department, nor do we pay consultants to do mass mail campaigns. (We don't even do mass mail campaigns.) But there is a bit of a silver lining to this dark cloud, depending on how you look at it. For 34 years, for better or worse, we have operated on a very simple paradigm: for every dollar given by every donor, we send 100% of it to the field for which it was given. No smoke and mirrors. No bait-and-switch. 100%. Then we ask each worker or family to make an offering of \$100 per month for everything we do internationally. So when you donate funds toward the work of your favorite Team Expansion missionary, literally all of it goes toward that missionary's work. Then, if he or she is at the top of his or her game, a small gift of \$100 goes back to the Home Office to cover all the services offered on behalf of the organization as a whole. (Likewise, each worker at the Home Office, save one receptionist, raises support just like field-based missionaries. God be praised for those who make their work possible, by the way, because they are, in turn, making possible a global work force.) I'll admit: It's not as much fun to operate this way. (In fact, building a training campus is like pulling teeth! :-)) But we hope it pleases donors. We hope it brings a focus on our fields of service. And most of all, we hope it helps get the job done for God's glory. Thank you for your support of Team Expansion!

Doug Lucas,
President, Team Expansion

Monthly Finances

Monthly Expense Recap For July 2012

Benefits	
100 · Salary	2,123.68
111 · Special Medical Expense	12.00
130 · Social Security	200.00
Education	
200 · Books/Periodicals	175.61
Christian Education	
300 · Printed Material	103.00
Postage	
550 · In the States	9.70
Office	
640 · Facility/Utilities	116.95
650 · Supplies in the States	647.47
660 · Mission Phone	105.98
661 · E-Mail	113.00
Promotion/Representation	
700 · For More Support	103.00
720 · Newsletters	103.00
730 · Reporting to Supporters	112.95
Travel	
800 · Car/Transportation	163.82
Miscellaneous	

920 · Banking Fees	140.00
TOTAL	4,230.16

Monthly Receipts Recap For July 2012

Individuals (10)	Total
	\$760.00
Churches (5)	\$2500.00
Edmond CC	650.00
First CC Sapulpa	100.00
Highland Park CC	1050.00
Osage Hills CC	200.00
Sunnybrook CC	500.00
TOTAL	\$3260.00
Running Ledger	
July 2012 Beginning Balance	\$ 1030.95
July 2012 Receipts	+ 3260.00
	\$ 4290.95
July 2012 Expenses	- \$ 4230.16
July 2012 Ending Balance	\$ 60.79

Project Showcase

In case you were wondering, here you can see more of the process of creating a large foam puppet, like on The Muppets or Sesame Street. After making the puppet, we'll be making videos that can be used with future Jump VBS curriculum about the life and ministry of Paul. Please pray for this curriculum creation.



for more art projects go to www.mattskechpad.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 development of new Jump VBS materials
- * Pray for new support to be committed toward our mission.
- * Pray for the children's curriculum for a closed Muslim field.
- * Pray for the Kairos conversion to portable illustrations.
- * Pray for the Outreach Center in Spain and the tasks related.
- * 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

August