

Go Ancona

Matt & Angie Crosser

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February 2007

New Horizons...

Expansion in the Ministry

Last month, we told you that we were looking forward to sharing some exciting news with you regarding what God has in store for us and the ministry throughout the coming year. In order for you to go on the journey with us, we have to bring you up to speed. Here goes....

The Taking Christ to Italy project was planned to span three different church plants, one in the North, one in the South and the one in the center where we are, in Ancona. God has been moving in the hearts of several people regarding missions in Italy. Team Expansion and our Team Leadership decided to do something to facilitate these potential recruits, so an online forum was created. Chatting, dreaming and praying took place over the last couple of months. The long story short is that Team Expansion approved me, Matt, as the new Team Leader for the second Church plant. We are really excited about God's leading, as well as sad to be leaving the ministry and our lives here in Ancona. The new city is not yet chosen, but we will be doing surveys, preliminary research and praying about God's direction for a new target city.

We will be continuing to minister here in Ancona, slowly transitioning over to the new team responsibilities. In November 2007, we will fly to Louisville for Team Expansion's Team Leader summit, where we will connect with other team leaders and be encouraged in leading a team. The next weekend we will head to Cincinnati for the National Missionary Convention where we will be promoting and recruiting for the new work. At that point we will fly to Oklahoma, where we will begin spending time with our churches and individual supporters, there in Oklahoma and in other locations. We will be raising awareness and funds for the new work, as well as team recruiting, training and team building. Team Expansion would also like us to spend this time to prepare ourselves, specifically myself for the new role of leadership. I am looking into taking a "Perspectives" missions class while we are in the states, as well as picking up a financial seminar by Dave Ramsey. If you know of any good books on missions and/or leadership send their titles my way. I am already reading books on those subjects and will continue to do so, as time goes.

In May/June 2008 we will head back to Italy to the new target city, where we will be pastoring a newly formed team during their language/culture

study and we will be beginning to lay the foundations for future ministry by meeting people and building relationships. You are part of our ministry and we wanted to share this with you. This IS public knowledge. If you would like to share this with your bible study groups, Sunday School classes, Church congregations, etc... please feel free to do so now. In fact, we relish your involvement in our discerning of the target city for the second church plant. In future correspondence we will be including highlights from the cities we are surveying and praying over for you to join with us. Feel free to write us with any questions, thoughts or prayers.

In Christ,
Matt & Angie

Our 2007 budget is now available, if you would like a copy of it, please request one through our Forwarding Agents or by emailing us at mcrosser@teamexpansion.org. On the back page there is some great financial news of blessings that you all provided for God's ministry here in Italy.

2007 Financial Need :

Monthly Commitments \$4,290 out of \$5,579 (77%)
(need \$1289/monthly)

Thanks for any help you can provide for these needs!
**see back page for details about finances.



Our friend, Yuri, got creative one day we went to his families' coffee shop. Here is Angie getting ready to enjoy a decaffeinated cappuccino that was written with cocoa in the foam.





Every month, we have an outreach of our English conversation ministry. It is called Encounter and each month we have a theme. In February, Encounter was close to Valentine's Day and so our theme was "The Valentine Blues". We had a few friends who can play the blues come and provide the perfect atmosphere of sound. Below are some pictures from the event and some original art that I made for the publicity. The purpose of these events is to build and deepen our relationships. As we spend time with these people we look for opportunities to share our faith. One of the guys that came had many questions and I shared with him the gospel from creation to Christ's resurrection to our opportunity to follow God and have a place in eternity.



Penne Con Tonno
(Penne Pasta with Tuna)

- Ingredients needed:**
- 1 box penne pasta
 - 2 cans tuna in olive oil
 - 1/2 large onion chopped
 - 1/2 cup heavy cream



Directions:
Cook pasta. In a small saucepan drain oil from tuna cans and add onions. Cook on medium heat until onions are translucent. Add tuna and heat through. Add cream and remove from heat. Pour over pasta and mix well. Serve with parmesan cheese.

- from our friend, Maurizio



The overall vision of the 'Taking Christ to Italy' project is to plant three churches in the country of Italy, one in the North, South and in the Center where we are in Ancona. We would ask that you be praying for all of these plants, current and future.

Go North
Go North
Go North
Go Ancona
Go South
Go South
Go South



Matt & Angie Crosser
Missionaries to Ancona, Italy
mccrosser@teamexpansion.org

Our Support Team
Milton & Elizabeth Hendricks
Forwarding Agents
moremail@valornet.com

John & Judy Webb
Team Pastors

Jimmy Foreman
Representative Elder

Jayson & Janice French
Representative Elder

Our Team

- Jason & Heather Casey
- Matt & Angie Crosser
- Marcus Van Dorn
- Brian & Heidi Rotert
- Josh Furnal

Our Roles

- Creative Arts & Promotions
- Children's Ministry
- Youth Ministry
- Evangelism
- Hospitality

Our Mission

To plant a church that is passionate about introducing people to Christ, growing them into disciples, equipping them to ministry in an attitude of worship

Our Forwarding Address

Team Expansion
2605 W Vandalia St
Broken Arrow, OK 74012

Please send all support to this address and checks made out to: Team Expansion

Our Physical Address

Matt & Angie Crosser
Piazza Malatesta, 25
60121 Ancona AN
Italia

Home/Office 918-398-9351
(remember we are 7 hours ahead)
Matt's Cell 011-39-392-320-9987
Angie's Cell 011-39-349-139-3523





Monthly Expenses for January 2007

Category	Total
Benefits	
100 · Salary	1,753.81
130 · Social Security	850.00
150 · Housing Allowance	1,915.54
160 · Utilities	409.57
Total Benefits	4,928.92
Education	
200 · Books/Periodicals	66.03
230 · Team Building	479.78
Total Education	545.81
Christian Education	
320 · Hospitality	158.32
Total Christian Education	158.32
Evangelism	
410 · AudioVisual	25.99
420 · Hospitality	134.44
430 · New Field Research	114.33
Total Evangelism	274.76
Postage	
500 · In the Field	39.00
Total Postage	39.00
Office	
600 · Supplies In the Field	222.06
640 · Facility/Utilities	204.36
650 · Supplies in the States	226.28
660 · Mission Phone	116.08
661 · E-Mail	31.32
Total Office	800.10
Promotion/Representation	
700 · For More Support	76.92
710 · For More Recruits	53.92
720 · Newsletters	40.00
730 · Reporting to Supporters	40.00
Total Promotion/Representation	210.84
Travel	
800 · Car/Transportation	935.36
806 · Vehicle Maintenance	87.77
810 · Meals While Traveling	89.18
820 · Fees/Tolls	9.34
850 · Shipping	124.78
Total Travel	1,158.66
Miscellaneous	
920 · Banking Fees	51.14
Total Miscellaneous	51.14
TOTAL	8,255.32

Monthly Receipts for January 2007

Donor	Amount
Individuals (8)	\$691.00
Churches (10)	\$22,266.22
Edmond CC	2,550.00
First CC - Kenosha	300.00
First CC - Sapulpa	1,430.00
Highland Park CC	10,301.22
Life Park CC	250.00
Metro Faith CC	300.00
Osage Hills CC	350.00
Real Life CC	5,050.00
Sandusky Ave CC	135.00
Shively CC	1,600.00
TOTAL	\$22,957.22

Monthly Expenses/Receipts Ledger

	Balance
December Ending Balance	\$2,178.95
January Receipts	+\$22,957.22
January Sub-Total	\$25,136.17
January Expenses	-\$8,255.32
January Ending Balance	\$16,880.85

Towards the end of 2006, we experienced some financial challenges. First, some support that was supposed to come in did not. Second, the exchange rate which has been slowly rising over the years had a spike in the month of December, which has continued into January and February. Third, our car had issues under the hood and tires that needed to be replaced in August. Fourth, we had financial obligations which we have shared with you over the years, but support did not ever come in towards those specific expenses. These included back taxes, from an early ministry clerical error, obligations to fees for our garage and other items, which were exacerbated by the fact that we did not have our full budget raised in the past. While it is true that we have more of our budget raised now, than in the past, two things continue to effect the semblance of our budget. One, the euro and dollar exchange rate situation has continued to slide downward, sometimes slowly, sometimes quickly, however the pattern shows a continual decline. Two, the cost of living changes. While for the most part we have included exchange rate changes and cost of living increases in the past, in order to not balloon our budget these are usually moderate.

So, we wrote to several of our churches and asked for help, focusing on the immediate situation caused by the pressing factors, then to help stabilize our ministry situation. Our churches responded. First, a few thousand came in, which was almost what

we needed for the emergency funds. Then another \$5,000 came in, then one of our churches took up an offering during snowy weekends in order to help us get on better footing. That offering was \$9,200 more than their normal monthly commitment. We were stunned, shocked and speechless at the response of God's people. This was going on while God was opening up the expansion of His ministry here in Italy and stretching us as he called me to a new position as Team Leader and Angie as a Team Leader's wife. This outpouring of blessings confirmed and affirmed the direction God was leading us. We were and are constantly humbled by your concern, care and support of our ministry. We have already taken care of many of the needs which we had expressed and are working on the others. It is because of your sacrifice and prayers that ministry is happening here and throughout Italy.

As mentioned previously, our 2007 budget is completed and available. If you would like a copy contact us and we can mail or email you a copy. We are so grateful that you are part of this ministry. You have been a blessing to us and indirectly to the people of Italy.

Thanks for your love,
Matt & Angie Crosser

