



# The Roterts in Italy

*A monthly look at the ministry, life, and culture of Ancona, Italy*

Volume 6 — Issue 4  
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**H**appy Spring! It seems that we have all been waiting for the same thing: things to warm up. Despite the cooler weather, we have been blessed with a warm and comforting feeling within the church here in Ancona. While there hasn't been much sunshine outside, inside our little community we have been blessed beyond measure. Let me tell you a few things that have been going on here in Ancona.



First of all, we have seen new faces around on Sunday mornings. Their faces are not entirely "new" but certainly new to coming to a church service. Sometimes it takes a few years before one of our friends is ready to come check things out on a Sunday morning (yes, I said "years"). Also, the attendance that we have has been very consistent for at least six weeks. We find that some people are simply not as committed to joining us each Sunday morning. But, as they have need-

ed each other more and more in the last few months, they have committed to each other and the Lord with their faithful attendance. It's been a blessing to have a room full of people all worshipping together.

Also, our Life Group has experienced some great times lately.

We have a new family coming, and they are just a joy to be around. They are Romanian Orthodox, but see something new and great in our little church here in Ancona. We have had great times of talking and sharing around the table. Another

dear friend of mine, Emanuela, came for the second time just last Wednesday.

Our dear friend Massi, who is in dire need of a bone marrow transplant, has been given a tentative date. May 6<sup>th</sup>! There are more details on the back, but it's nice to have a date to look forward to.

All that said, we are finding ourselves in an encouraging place with the church. There are other little personal "hurdles" that we face, but we know that God has called us here and he will continue to sustain us. The weak dollar

is one thing that affects us on a regular basis. As the new baby gets closer and closer to arriving, we are seeing just how expensive things have become here. One bottle costs around \$8. A small package of diapers will also set us back around \$8. It may seem overwhelming sometimes, but God has never let us down (and I have a feeling He never will).

Other little things, like unexpected car repairs, difficulties at school, or homesickness, are easily remedied by your prayers. Thank you so much for spending time in prayer for us. We appreciate it so very much.

*Until next month...*

**Want to get in touch? Here's how...**

**E-mail:** [brotert@teamexpansion.org](mailto:brotert@teamexpansion.org)

**Web site:** [www.theroterts.net](http://www.theroterts.net)

**Home Address**

Please send us an email to get in touch

**Send donations to**

Team Expansion  
PO Box 832  
Joplin, MO 64802

**Phone Number**

Please send us an email to get in touch



*Our Marchegian hills are finally turning green! On Easter weekend, we had a picnic with some of the members of our church. The sky looked like it was about to pour at any minute, but the hills around us were beautiful. Here, we're actually standing in thick mud covered by grass!*



**Please Pray...**

Thanks for remembering Massi, our church member with myelofibrosis. Things are looking better! His cell counts are near normal, and they have tentatively scheduled a transplant for May 6. He still has to undergo one more round of chemo before then, and they have sent him home to wait until there is a space in the quarantine unit. Keep praying!

We're about 8 weeks away from the birth of Rotert kid #4! Heidi is doing great, but tired. The due date is June 18, and we appreciate the prayers for a safe delivery.

The end of school is almost here, and I think the kids are ready for a summer break! Please pray that they will finish strong - they have certainly earned a little R & R.

Our team has recently been blessed with a large donation (\$40,000!), and part of this money will be used to improve out current facility. We're in the process of transferring that money over, and are beginning to plan how to best use that. Our first job - giving away 10% to someone (or someones!) who need it. Pray for wisdom!

**A Word from the Pres...**

What brings renewal for you? For some, it's getting away to the mountains. I tried that recently. In an effort to focus fully, I took 4 days on a hilltop near Whittier, North Carolina. It was a very meaningful time of praying, reading, brainstorming, and recasting the dreams of my life and our ministry. I revisited my hopes, dreams, and daily walk, along with those of Team Expansion. I also studied carefully several of our projects around the world and became all the more convinced that God is doing some mighty work among us. Thank you for the support and prayer you extend in hopes of undergirding these projects, through the work of the favorite Team Expansion worker that you support. Please join me now in not only supporting them financially, but also in praying for their work specifically and intentionally. And thank you for the difference you're making around the world! (More later about the outcome from the 4 days on mountaintop).

Doug Lucas  
President, Team Expansion

Financial Statement as of  
March 31, 2008

<b>Balance</b>	<b>\$6,212.60</b>
<b>Income</b>	<b>\$4,064.26</b>
Individuals	\$1,323.58
Central CC (Rockford, IL)	\$1,000.00
First CC (Gravette, AR)	\$50.00
Harmony CC (Georgetown, KY)	\$200.00
Newberg CC (Newberg, OR)	\$450.00
Oswego CC (Oswego, KS)	\$355.00
Shively CC (Shively, KY)	\$500.00
Willamina CC (Willamina, OR)	\$179.39
Interest Income	\$6.29
<b>Expenses</b>	<b>\$6,074.56</b>
Benefits - Salary	\$1,710.65
Benefits - Special Medical Expense	\$88.30
Benefits - Retirement	\$100.00
Benefits - Housing Allowance	\$1,230.66
Benefits - Utilities	\$1,093.08
Benefits - Education for Children	\$114.68
Education - Books/Periodicals	\$49.90
Education - Language Acquisition	\$49.13
Education - Conferences/Classes	\$220.37
Education - Team Building	\$28.03
Christian Education - Hospitality	\$264.22
Evangelism - Short-term Projects	\$46.20
Evangelism - Hospitality	\$16.94
Postage - In the Field	\$44.28
Postage - In the States	\$130.68
Office - Facility/Utilities	\$308.00
Office - Supplies in the States	\$139.64
Office - Mission Phone	\$38.50
Office - E-mail	\$9.95
Office - Faxes	\$4.62
Promo./Rep. - Newsletters	\$35.00
Promo./Rep. - Representation	\$100.00
Travel - Car	\$181.90
Travel - Fees/Tolls	\$52.66
Misc. - Banking Fees	\$17.17
<b>Ending Balance</b>	<b>\$4,202.30</b>