



The Roterts in Italy

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

Volume 6 — Issue 10
October 2008



I remeber when I was a kid I used to wake up in the middle of the night with pains going up and down my legs. My mom took me to the doctor, and he gave us a suprising diagnosis: growing pains.

The physical symptoms of a body being stretched have long since went away, but we all still feel the pain that comes from growth, don't we?

As a family, we've been stretched in the past month as we seek to figure out what "normal" is in our new home. Things are starting to feel settled again, and I've been amazed at how God blessed us.

As a team, we're learning what it means to model a community of believers, and learning to love and respect one another the way God made us.

As a church, we're being stretched in a couple of ways. When we first returned to Italy from home

service about a year and a half ago, there were Sunday's when no one but Americans were present. The fact that now around fifteen non-Americans are present every Sunday may not seem like substantial growth, but to us it's the result of years of work and prayer.



Growth in numbers would be meaningless if it weren't matched by spiritual growth. We eat dinner together every Sunday after church, and the conversations reflect a group of people who are really "working out their faith" and who

are striving to live in community with each other. It's not always easy, but I think we're seeing the benefit of working through the pain.

Jen, one of our interns, has done an incredible job at growing our free, weekly English lessons. We're all thankful for her expertise in this area.

We've also experienced the pain of growth when we've realized that the time for our monthly Coffee Houses has come to an end. We've recently felt the nudge to turn this ministry over to our

Italian friends. What began as a way for us Americans to get to know people needs to change into something that Italians can use as an outreach. We're already hearing some ideas of what they would like to do, and we're excited to watch!

Your part in all of this growth is essential. Your prayers have sustained us through times that were emotionally, physically, and even financially difficult. Your sacrificial gifts haven't gone unnoticed in these rough financial times. Thanks for the part that you play in growing this church in Ancona.

Until next month...

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

E-mail: brottert@teamexpansion.org

Web site: www.theroterts.net

Home Address

Please send us an email to get in touch

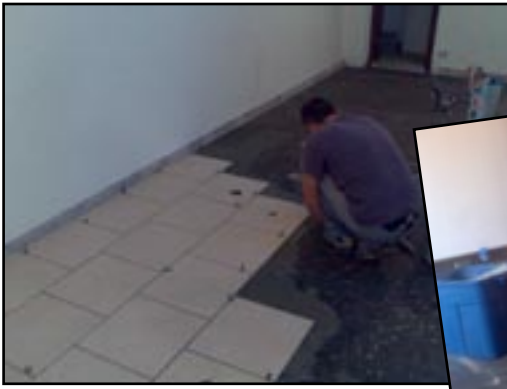
Send donations to

Team Expansion
PO Box 832
Joplin, MO 64802

Phone Number

Please send us an email to get in touch

New Home Address!



We've spent a lot of time getting rid on the nasty tile at La Via and laying down something a bit more presentable. Simone, a man in our church, has volunteered lots of evenings to get it finished. Trey is especially good at roughing up the tar. And if you know Trey, you know exactly what I mean! 😊

First day of school, 2008



Please Pray...

In a few weeks our team will be hosting two Thanksgiving dinners for our friends here in Ancona. We hope to show what the source of true thankfulness is. Please pray for the logistics of cooking a turkey dinner for 100 people to be worked out, and also that God's love will shine brightly through us.

Despite the fall of markets all over the world, we've been so happy to see a much more favorable exchange rate lately. It's been a much-needed relief.

Our team knows several people who are facing serious illnesses. Please pray for Matteo's eyesight, Daniele's cancer of the tongue, and Rosa's broken heart.

A Word from the President...

Thank you for supporting the work of your favorite Team Expansion missionary. Did you ever stop to think about how many volunteers it takes to pull off successful mission work these days? It starts with you, making a free and clear gift to the Lord through your donation to the work of your favorite Team Expansion worker. It continues through the work of a volunteer Forwarding Agent who receives that gift, banks it, and manages the bill-paying for that particular "franchise" of Team Expansion. It continues with the on-field worker, who agreed to serve God without any firm promise of a monthly salary. In addition, there are lots of behind-the-scenes workers who do help with security, strategy, logistics, representation, information technology, finances, leadership, accountability, ... and with Team Expansion, virtually every one of these workers is a volunteer. All Team Expansion workers pitch in a voluntary \$100/month to handle a portion of the pooled expenses that we face as an organization, but except for one receptionist in Louisville, KY, all of us are essentially volunteer soldiers, serving in a volunteer army to reach the unreached. Thanks for making our work possible through your gift! May God bless!

Doug Lucas
President, Team Expansion

Financial Statement as of
September 30, 2008

Balance	\$9,619.71
Income	\$8,145.54
Individuals	\$3,171.00
Central CC (Rockford, IL)	\$2,040.00
First CC (Gravette, AR)	\$550.00
Harmony CC (Lexington, KY)	\$200.00
Iron Gates CC (Joplin, MO)	\$200.00
Newberg CC (Newberg, OR)	\$910.00
Oswego CC (Oswego, KS)	\$330.00
Shively CC (Shively, KY)	\$500.00
Willamina CC (Willamina, OR)	\$241.08
Interest Income	\$3.46
Expenses	\$11,409.31
Benefits - Salary	\$2,033.79
Benefits - Medical Insurance	\$250.00
Benefits - Special Medical Expense	\$32.71
Benefits - Social Security	\$621.00
Benefits - Retirement	\$135.00
Benefits - Housing Allowance	\$1,299.91
Benefits - Utilities	\$129.21
Benefits - Education for Children	\$204.21
Education - Books/Periodicals	\$38.95
Education - Language Acquisition	\$73.00
Education - Team Building	\$217.90
Christian Education - Hospitality	\$56.53
Postage - On the Field	\$40.30
Postage - In the States	\$91.35
Office - Supplies in the Field	\$47.33
Office - Facility/Utilities	\$146.00
Office - Supplies in the States	\$64.13
Office - Mission Phone	\$129.94
Promo./Rep. - Representation	\$100.00
Travel - Car	\$136.39
Travel - Fees/Tolls	\$77.02
Misc. - Banking Fees	\$-2.81
Misc. - Mission House	\$5,484.64
Misc. - Other	\$4.65
Ending Balance	\$6,355.94

*Our expenses this month are high because of the costs associate with moving. Nearly everything was offset by special offerings! Thanks to those who helped. Please get in touch with us if you need any clarifications.

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