



The Visionary



## BEING TRAFFIC AWARE

by Doug Lucas, President, Team Expansion

Recently, as I wrapped up a visit to southern California, my recurring nightmare began to unfold: I had allowed exactly 90 minutes to get to Los Angeles International airport (LAX) but, alas, the freeway was pure gridlock. Then it happened, my "traffic-aware" GPS popped up a dialogue box saying there were delays ahead. It then asked me if I wanted to take an alternate route. Duh. Soon I was sailing along a set of scenic switchbacks on a hilly backroad that I had never heard of before. And just when I began to wonder where in the world I was, a right turn revealed the destination I longed to see, LAX!

GPS devices had been around for years, but *traffic-awareness* was new for me. As I reflected, I wondered - what if Team Expansion and U4theU could act as a "traffic aware" guidance system for your church? What if God enabled us to help you figure out which regions were filled with churches and missionaries, then helped us help



you raise up a new and effective outreach in a previously unreached and unengaged land. Emerald Hills is our center of operations for exactly that mandate. Please pray that, together, we can finish the task of world evangelism.

## FIELD HIGHLIGHT: JAPAN

by Elisabeth Johnson

Every Saturday night, we have a community party. We take this time to invite friends from our community and areas we have been serving.

Sometimes we meet people when we are working on their destroyed homes, sometimes when we are playing with kids in the park, and even sometimes just hanging out around

town. God has blessed us with so many new relationships and even more deeper friendships. We have been blessed weekly by our volunteer groups, helping us to connect with several new people. Some volunteer groups help with preparing the meals, some with the entertainment, and others with encouragement to those attending. This

is the best form of the body of Christ that I have ever seen.

Please pray for us as we continue to trust God in the relationships He has given us in our community. We are no longer just "volunteers," but we are living here and hoping for deep friendships.



## PRAYER SHELTER SPOTLIGHT

### INDIAN CREEK

Indian Creek Christian Church in Indianapolis, In. is the home church to several Team Expansion workers and is consistently generous with the International Services staff.

Indian Creek was extremely active in the relief and reconstruction in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina in New Orleans, and is now supporting The Gathering, a church that Team Expansion planted and staffs in the area affected by the hurricane.

When the missions minister was asked where on Emerald Hills' campus he wanted their prayer shelter to go, his response was, "As close to the lake as possible – I want pray and fish at the same time."

## PRAYER REQUESTS

- Praise God for ten weeks of training programs scheduled at Emerald Hills in May, June, July, and August. Ask for abundant fruit from these trainings and for stamina for those doing the equipping.
- Praise God for His continuing provision and care over Emerald Hills.
- Ask God to use Emerald Hills as a place to pray for the unreached as well as mobilize and train workers for the harvest.
- Ask God to raise up a buyer for the Hopewell House.
- Ask God to provide the means to pay off the outstanding debt on the Prayer Center and Atrium.

## FINANCIAL UPDATE

### APRIL 2012

<b>Emerald Hills Fund</b>
<b>-\$43,038.64</b>
\$12,981.26
\$12,257.81*
<b>-\$42,315.19</b>

\*Balance owed to First Cap Bank: \$1.43 million

### Receipts

Center Pointe Christian Church	\$375.00
Christ's Church of the Valley, PA	\$300.00
Coastal Community Christian Church	\$250.00
College Heights Christian Church	\$400.00
Crossroads Christian Church	\$2,850.00
Fayetteville Church of Christ	\$250.00
Fern Creek Christian Church	\$400.00
Heritage Christian Church	\$100.00
Individuals	\$1,596.00
Kroger Inc	\$230.26
Lake Eufaula Christian Church	\$280.00
National Christian Foundation	\$5,000.00
Northwest Christian Church	\$200.00
Shively Christian Church	\$750.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$12,981.26</b>

### Expenses

Banking Fee	\$17.95
Transfer to Endowment Fund	\$1,518.25
Louisville Water Co.	\$79.76
Mortgage Payment	\$10,142.36
For More Support	\$66.00
Lawnmower Repair	\$82.03
Fuel	\$160.00
Misc	\$191.46
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$12,257.81</b>

\*In addition to the balances noted above, we have set aside \$60,060.36 to fund future Maintenance and Improvements to Emerald Hills campus. The negative balance in the Emerald Hills Fund is possible because we are borrowing from a Maintenance and Improvement Fund and the Office General Fund.

If you would like to receive the Visionary via email let us know!

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