

The Visionary



BATTLING DARK FORCES

by Doug Lucas, President, Team Expansion

I've just returned from a Prayer Journey to Japan. On a dark and stormy night, we hiked up to the Nunobiki Kannon Temple Buddhist Temple near the town of Komoro. The gusty wind and dark shadows only served to accentuate the forces we imagined. Maybe we weren't imagining. Eph. 6:12 reads, "For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms." I'll never forget that prayer service as long as I live. It felt as if we were going up against dark forces - forces that had ruled Komoro for centuries.

Team Expansion workers the world over have faced down similar confrontations. Our workers tell us over and over again that they appreciate the training they receive at Emerald Hills - in character, spiritual disciplines, prayer, church-planting, and more. The only problem is - we're

limited both by a lack of sleeping facilities and inadequate classrooms.



Our first phase building (the Prayer Center and Atrium) was a big improvement over the overcrowded little church house we had before. But to bump up to the next level, would you pray with us that God would empower a true Training Center with beds and a worship-friendly training room? Now we know that workers will come if we build it.

Please ask God for instruction, resources, and perseverance. We'll need it to go up against forces like those at Nunobiki. Thank you for your prayers and shared vision to make it happen.

FIELD HIGHLIGHT: TAIWAN

by The DeVries

Did you ever have a familiar word take on a whole new meaning? I've been going to "church" my whole life. But things are turned on their head here on the other side of the world. The people we meet don't come to church, we have to bring the church to them.

There is an airsoft club here that meets on Sunday mornings. It's the

only day of the week the players aren't at work. So if we want to reach these guys, we have to think outside the box. Our teammate's van is perfect for carrying the group and their gear to the site.

The trip from our house to this forest took an hour and a half and we had good conversation all the way

there and back. Some of the guys have heard some Bible stories before, one had never heard a single story, so we started at the beginning. In a van full of camouflage and toy guns, they listened to the story of Creation and the Fall.

The men were interested but are a pretty rough group that have no idea of God's hopes for their lives. It is cool to tell Bible stories to guys that need Jesus and don't know it yet.



PRAYER SHELTER SPOTLIGHT

☞ CENTERPOINTE ☜

Center Pointe (located near Cincinnati, Ohio) believes in the power of prayer, the importance of supporting missionaries, and making Christ the center of one's life. They hope to keep on "connecting people to Christ and each other to change lives forever," with the goal of helping believers everywhere to be passionately SEEKING to know and experience Him; faithfully STUDYING to live out His word; humbly SERVING Him; and lovingly SHARING the incredible story of God's grace with the unreached people around the world.

In Partnership with Team Expansion, they support mission outreach in Kosova and, through this prayer shelter, is undergirding Emerald Hills to encourage missionaries and other believers. May God bless this campus to His glory as a place to pray, retreat, and learn.

PRAYER REQUESTS

- Pray that one of the people currently interested in purchasing the Hopewell House would be able to acquire financing to do so.
- 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 provide the means to pay off the outstanding debt on the Prayer Center and Atrium.

FINANCIAL UPDATE

MAY 2012

	<u>Emerald Hills Fund</u>
Balance 5-1-12	-\$42,315.19
May Receipts	\$11,842.29
May Expenses	\$11,780.81*
Checking account Balance 5-31-12	-\$42,253.71

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

Receipts

Andover Christian Church	\$998.00
Center Pointe Christian Church	\$375.00
Coastal Community Christian Church	\$250.00
College Heights Christian Church	\$400.00
Fayetteville Church of Christ	\$250.00
Fern Creek Christian Church	\$400.00
First Christian Church, Sullivan	\$200.00
Individual	\$6,981.63
Lake Eufaula Christian Church	\$276.00
Northwest Christian Church	\$200.00
Quest	\$55.00
Team Expansion (Lucas)	\$200.00
Team Expansion (Richter)	\$20.00
Vansant Church of Christ	\$500.00
Westerville Christian Church	\$736.66
Total	\$11,842.29

Expenses

Banking Fee	\$49.25
Project 29 Signs	\$464.00
Louisville Gas and Electric	\$153.18
Mortgage Payment	\$10,142.36
For More Support	\$132.00
Clubcar Repair	\$400.77
Misc	\$79.00
Fuel	\$162.00
Tractor Repair	\$198.25
Total	\$11,780.81

*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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