

meet the BLUMENSTOCKS



THAILAND



their story

Jim and Karen Blumenstock are from Cedarville, OH and were married in 1996. They have an adopted Taiwanese daughter, Ella, who was born in 2004. Soon after graduating seminary, Jim began serving as a pastor of youth and missions at his church. It was at this time that he had a conversation with the Vice President of Cornerstone University and became interested in Asia Biblical Theological Seminary (ABTS).

ABTS was started by a missionary to Thailand in 1983 because the local Christian leaders there were asking for Bible training. ABTS offers accredited, graduate level education through Cornerstone University for church leaders throughout Asia. Students of ABTS take two weeks of intensive classes at the seminary and then go home and complete their homework over the next three months. This makes theological degrees accessible to Asian church leaders because they don't have to move overseas.

In July of 2001, Jim and Karen were accepted by their sending agency, ABWE, to work with ABTS to provide graduate level education for church leaders throughout Asia. In March of 2011, Jim was installed as the new Dean of ABTS. Jim continues to teach while also overseeing all operational and administrative functions at the school.

In addition to the classes held at the seminary, Jim travels to Myanmar, Cambodia, Singapore, the Philippines, Hong Kong and India teaching a variety of courses in two-week modules. The students include local pastors, Bible teachers, missionaries and lay leaders. Karen ministers in various ways, including as a fitness instructor. Ella has been attending college in the US since the Fall of 2022.

The Bible Chapel has partnered with the Blumenstocks since 2014.

FEBRUARY 2024

PRAISE

- ❖ Ella got a part-time job working in the marketing department of Cornerstone University. This will help her with expenses as she continues with her studies there.
- ❖ We also praise God for a good start to Jim's class. The students are working through the online portions now as they get ready for the in-person class in late February.
- ❖ 20 years in Asia! Last month, we celebrated our 20th anniversary of living in Asia. It was in January 2004 that we packed our bags in Cedarville, OH and flew to the other side of the world to live in Singapore. It's hard to believe we have been in Asia that long, but what a wonderful journey it has been. God is good!

PRAYER

- Pray for Jim's trip to the Philippines this week and next. He will be meeting with ABTS staff in Manila and then flying south to Iloilo to teach at a conference at Doane Seminary. Pray for wisdom and stamina as he teaches 7 times in just four days.
- Pray for our upcoming furlough in March and April. We are looking forward to spending time with supporters, family, and friends. There is much to do before we leave, so pray for health and a clear mind as we finish things up before our departure.
- **Next Meeting Tuesday, February 20, 2024 @ 8:30AM**