

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.

JANUARY 2024

PRAISE

- ❖ Karen has been ministering at Cross Fit. She has had numerous opportunities to share the love of Christ with people who are antagonistic toward Christ and the Church.
- ❖ Ella got a new job in the marketing department at Cornerstone University..

PRAYER

- Jim will teach three classes this year: Bangkok in February, online in April, and Delhi in November.
- Jim will be the keynote speaker at a conference in Iloilo, Philippines from February 5-9.
- Karen will continue her ministry at CrossFit.
- Ella will finish up her 2nd year at Cornerstone University. Pray for her new job in marketing at the university. She will be in Chiang Mai over the summer.
- In March and April, we will travel to the US for our annual home assignment.
- Jim recently rejoined the elder board at our church and was appointed co-chair.
- The newly formed cohorts in Manila, UAE, and Iloilo will have a full schedule of courses this year.
- We hope to start a fully online MA in partnership with a school in Chennai, India.
- Jim plans on making a trip to Nepal in late 2024 to discuss the possibility of starting classes in the country.
- ABTS will have an accreditation visit from ATA (Asian Theological Association), which, if successful, will give us dual accreditation: one in the US through Cornerstone, and one in Asia.
- ABTS hope to finalize and accredit a new MA in Counseling which we would like to offer in select regions by the end of this year.
- Dr. Darrell Bock will once again be our Scholar's Series visiting professor this year. He will be teaching in Delhi in July.
- **Next Meeting Tuesday, January 16, 2024 @ 8:30AM**