

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.

MARCH 2024

PRAISE

- ❖ Praise God that Jim and Karen are safely back in the USA to spend quality time with Ella, family, friends, and supporters.
- ❖ Praise the Lord for the good week Jim had in Iloilo prior to his leaving for the US. He spoke at a conference at Doane Baptist Bible Institute on both the topic of Christian identity in 1 Peter and on a theology of work. Jim also had lunches with ABTS alumni (some of which were in Jim's first ever class back in 2001), and students in the current Iloilo cohort. Praise God for His shared Word and fellowship that followed.
- ❖ Praise God for Jim and Karen's great experience at the conference as they continue ABTS's ongoing and fruitful partnership with Doane Seminary.
- ❖ Praise the Lord for the strength and wisdom God gave Jim as he spoke seven times in the Philippines. Pray for those who attended that they will be encouraged in their identity in Christ, and re-motivated to do their work as unto the Lord.
- ❖ Praise God for the stamina provided to Jim as he recently taught a long eight hour in-person class in Bangkok. Praise God that the 15 students in the class, eight Filipinos, six Thai, and one Indian, all showed enthusiasm to learn. The students also had excellent engagement with the material. Jim was encouraged by their response.

PRAAYER

- Pray for Jim and Karen's time here in the USA. Pray that their busy schedule, speaking engagements at Cornerstone University chapel, meetings at the university, reporting to two churches, and visiting individual supporters, family, and friends, are all richly blessed. Lastly, pray that Jim and Karen find time to rest, recuperate, and share exceptional family time with Ella.
- **Next Meeting Tuesday, March 19, 2024 @ 8:30AM**
- **April meeting - April 16**