



MEET

The Blumenstocks

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.

8/17-20/25

PRAISE

- -Praise God for Jim's dad's visit with Jim and Karen this month. Pray for safe travels home for him and good memories of his visit.

PRAYER

2025 promises to be an exciting and transformative year for both ABTS and the Blumenstock family. Please pray for:

- the launch of two new degree programs,
- the opening of sites in Nepal and Central Asia,
- a furlough trip to the US in March and April

Pray for Ella as she is in her last year at Cornerstone. She hopes to complete her degree in December. Pray that she continues to seek the Lord and that this final stage of her university experience is a blessed time of growth in every way. And pray for a summer job for her.

Please pray for the expansion opportunities ABTS will be pursuing this year. They are preparing to launch a new Master of Arts in Counseling degree as well as their first fully online MA program. Their goal is to have these programs upon and running by mid-year.

Throughout 2024, Jim has been regularly visiting the men's prison in Chiang Mai as part of a church ministry team. These visits aim to encourage foreign inmates and share the hope of the gospel. Jim has been particularly focused on supporting his friend Michael, a New Zealander who is serving time for the second time due to legal complications. While Michael is not yet a believer, he has shown a deep interest in spiritual matters. Please pray for Michael's spiritual journey.

Please pray also for a young man from Ghana who name is Wisdom. He was involved in a tragic accident that resulted in the deaths of two road workers. Despite his circumstances, Wisdom remains a committed Christian and plays a key role in leading a church within the prison, ministering to his fellow inmates. Pray for his continued strength, encouragement and impact.