



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.**

## October 2024

PRAISE

- Praise God for the insights gathered during ABTS's online education consultation last month. Thank God for Dr. Meekins and Dr Marshfield who flew to Chiang Mai to provide this pro bono training to ABTS's staff.
- Praise God for Jim's successful trip to Nepal earlier this month..

PRAYER

- Since the pandemic, all ABTS courses have included a blend of online education with in-person training. Pray that the ABTS staff can effectively implement the new educational techniques they learned last month. And pray that they will enhance the learning experience for the students.
- Pray for the next round of classes that will begin on October 20. Jim will be teaching Christian Worldview for the Delhi site. The class will be online for 4 weeks with the in-person training from November 15-18.
- Pray that the Lord draws many students to the Nepal cohort.
- Pray for Karen in her Hard to Hope ministry as she invests in the lives of her two clients. Pray that Karen and these ladies find deeper physical, emotional and spiritual well-being as they spend time together around God's word.
- Pray for Jim as he leads ABTS. Ask the Lord to give him wisdom and lead the team well. Pray that the ABTS team will be unified and do all their work for the glory of God and His kingdom.
- Pray for Ella in her junior year at Cornerstone that she is encouraged in her studies, does well, has deep friendships with fellow believers and meaningful growth in her walk with the Lord.