

## 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.

## AUGUST 2024

### PRAISE

- ❖ Praise God for Dr. Bock's, a renowned New Testament scholar and professor at Dallas Theological Seminary, willingness to teach for ABTS earlier this month in Delhi, India. The class was on the book of Acts. There was a great turnout of students who gained much from Dr. Bock's teaching. It was a phenomenal opportunity for the ABTS students to learn from such an accomplished scholar.
- ❖ Praise God for the family time Jim, Karen, and Ella spent together this summer.

### PRAYER

- ❖ Pray for safe travels for Ella as she returns to the USA on August 20 for her third year of studies at Cornerstone University.
- ❖ Pray for the upcoming Asia Theological Association, ATA, accreditation visit on August 26-29. Pray for the ABTS team as they host the representatives, and for the entire process as ABTS seeks Asian accreditation for their degree programs in addition to the accreditation through Cornerstone University.
- ❖ Jim finished one class last month and has started another. Pray for Jim as he teaches the introduction class to 12 new and eager students who come from seven different nations and represent a wide variety of ministries.
- ❖ Pray for the Lord to continue to bless Jim, Karen, and the entire ABTS team with wisdom and discernment in their work they do for His kingdom. Pray also for Ella as she continues her studies.