

Dear Pastor, family and friends,

Dawn and I would like to thank you for your faithful prayers and financial support over the past 14 years as we have served in New Zealand. We cannot begin to express our gratitude properly, but we recognize that we would not be able to do what we do without you! Your prayers will be especially needed in the coming days of our ministry. Several months ago, God began leading Dawn and I in another direction in missions. To explain this, I need to back up a bit. As a result of a heartbreaking situation in 2009, we felt it best to return to the States and seek counsel for our family. Years later God directed us to return to New Zealand, so Dawn and I did deputation a second time and returned to serve Him here. During this second term on the mission field God used us in ways we did not expect. We had many opportunities to counsel and encourage other missionaries. We also had the privilege of leading teams of volunteers to help in different projects here in New Zealand and in Samoa. After much prayer and counsel, God has used all of this to lead Dawn and I to join another ministry of BIMI called CLAIM or Christian Laymen Assisting International Missionaries. We want to be clear. We are still missionaries – just under the auspices of a different ministry. We believe God has uniquely prepared us for this time:

- We have lived in another culture
- Served miles away from home
- Struggled with feelings of failure
- Raised our children on the mission field, and
- Experienced coming to a place in life while serving the Lord where we needed counsel about what was going on in our ministry, but feared this would be perceived as weakness

Missionaries all over the world are dealing with the same things we have experienced, and they need help. I am sure that many of you as pastors would say that there have been times in your life that you would have appreciated some help in the ministry. The CLAIM ministry is where we believe God is moving us because of our heart for other servants of God that need assistance. This is an opportunity to help missionaries around the world accomplish God's goals for their ministries and encourage them at the same time. As far as the building aspect goes, God has prepared me for this through years of being involved in construction and having my own handyman service. God started working on my heart about this years ago, but we believe that now is the right time to step out into this new ministry. Through the CLAIM ministry, we would be asking from time to time for men and women from your churches to participate in projects. Some of these projects may be building while others could be evangelistic outreach. This is a great opportunity to connect your church folks with a hands-on look at what mission work is about.

We will be transitioning to BIMI's home office in Harrison, TN. On May 12, Dawn and I will say our final goodbyes to our church family. We are leaving our church in good hands. Missionary Logan Bankston will become the pastor of the church. I know some of you may have more questions and I would love to answer them for you. Our desire is to be very ethical in every aspect of this transition. Please feel free to email me at <a href="mailto:Jerryjudd@gmail.com">Jerryjudd@gmail.com</a> with any questions.

Serving Him,

Jerry and Dawn Judd



## **Mission Agency**

BIMI PO Box 9 Harrison, TN 37341 (423) 344-5050 Director Alan Brooks

## **Sending Church**

Lighthouse Baptist Church 216 Barr Road Lexington, SC 29072 (585)590-0076

## **Contact Info**

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