



JOSHUA & AMY DURDEN

BIMI MISSIONARIES TO JAPAN

CARRYING THE CROSS TO THE
LAND OF THE RISING SUN

BIMI

MISSION AGENCY

Baptist International
Missions, Inc.
Chattanooga, TN
www.BIMI.org

SENDING CHURCH

Lakeside Baptist Church
Clearwater, SC
Pastor Tad Marshall
www.besidethelake.com

September, 2013

Dear Pastors, Partners, & Praying Friends,

As we close out the month of August, we trust everyone is doing well. As always, we keep you in our prayers and always look forward to hearing what the Lord is graciously doing on your end. Please allow us the opportunity to share with you what the Lord has done for us in August 2013!

“Where He Leads Me I Will Follow,” is a song that has stood out to us this month. As you are aware we began deputation in April of this year and only had four meetings from April through July. That changed quickly as the month of August has seen us on the road every week traveling to present our burden in a different church every Sunday and Wednesday. The Lord also allowed us to be in two missions conferences this month. The Lord led us to the states of Georgia, Tennessee, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Virginia. What a joy it is to have followed the Lord to some sweet churches during our traveling a total of 3,874 miles. The Lord has provided along the way as we saw \$1,298.14 come in from love offerings. We also had three churches mention they would pick us up for support. Truly, “where He leads we can follow” knowing we are in His will!

Our first stop, August 2-4, was at Eastwood Baptist Church in Marietta, Georgia, with Pastor Mike Hatton for their missions conference. We were able to stay with Mrs. Tucker, a faithful member of the church who has been a widow for these past two years. We enjoyed every minute being with her. She had such a wonderful spirit and took us right in. We were excited to see eight other missionaries attending the conference as well. Saturday morning Pastor Hatton treated all of us to breakfast at Golden Corral. The conference was such a blessing to be a part of. Pastor Hatton decided to take us on for support.

From Marietta, Georgia, we traveled to BIMI (Baptist International Missions, Inc.) where we stayed the week of August 5-9. Bro. Jerry Dwire, Amy, and I worked all week putting together our DVD presentation to show in the churches when we present our burden for Japan. We enjoyed also seeing the Pridgen family who are missionaries in Uganda. Our home church supports this faithful family. On Wednesday night we were able to go to Stanley Independent Baptist Church in Chattanooga, Tennessee, for their mid-week service with Pastor Shawn Meade. This was a loving church in the midst of beautiful scenery at Lookout Mountain.

Our travels from Chattanooga took us to Born Again Baptist Church in Sneads Ferry, North Carolina, with Pastor Phillip Jones, August 11. While at this church we were able to stay in the beautiful home of Mr. Rudy & Mrs. Sandy. We are so thankful and appreciative for this family. Pastor Jones allowed us to share our burden for Japan in Sunday School, and then allowed me the wonderful opportunity to preach in the morning and evening services. Saturday night, when we arrived, the assistant pastor and his wife took us out for lunch. Pastor Jones took us out for lunch after the morning service. It was such a wonderful time fellowshiping with these fine folks.

From Sneads Ferry we traveled to Peachtree Road Baptist Church in Suwanee, Georgia, with Pastor Jay Reed, August 14, for their mid-week service. This was such a wonderful congregation and we thoroughly enjoyed being with Pastor and

his dear wife and family. Pastor allowed us to show our DVD and gave us a few moments to share what the Lord is doing. Afterwards, they took us out for a delicious steak, filled up our van, and gave us a wonderful motel to stay in there at the Hampton. We praise the Lord for this dear sweet family.

From Suwanee we traveled to Faith Baptist Church in Newborn, Georgia, with Pastor Mike Scott. This was a Sunday morning service on August 18. What a wonderful time we had with this church. It was encouraging to hear the stories from Pastor Scott of how his family were missionaries in Peru. Once again we were given the opportunity to teach in Sunday School and then preach in the morning service. Pastor Scott and the dear folks gave us a love offering to send us on our way to our next church.

That Sunday night, August 18, the Lord led us to present our burden for Japan in the place where I was trained and taught the Bible. Victory Baptist Church in North Augusta, South Carolina with Pastor Dr. R. Larry Brown, opened their arms to us once more. After the service, I was able to take a few moments and share our burden for Japan while my father, mother-in-law, uncle, and aunt watched as well. It was so encouraging to go back to the place where I graduated Bible College. Then, we were able to be with Amy's mom and dad in celebrating Amy's birthday at I-Hop!

From North Augusta we traveled to Temple Baptist Church in Morehead City, North Carolina, with Pastor Terry Johnson to be a part of their 2013 Missions Conference, August 22-24. Two other couples were there as well presenting their works and it was wonderful to meet them and establish new friends in the ministry. Once again we were allowed the privilege in staying with another wonderful family of Mr. John "Butch" and Mrs. Viola Cannon. Pastor Johnson, his dear family, and church were so wonderful, gracious, kind, and loving to us. We praise the Lord for this church and look forward to partnering with them in spreading the Gospel of Jesus Christ to the unreached people of Japan.

From Morehead City we traveled to the other side of the state to be at Middle Cross Baptist Church in North Wilkesboro, North Carolina, with Pastor Jason Whetley on August 25. This was a fun loving church to be in. People were singing, shouting, and just rejoicing in the Lord. Pastor Whetley allowed me the opportunity to preach in the evening service. We thoroughly enjoyed ourselves and praised the Lord for this wonderful church reaching the lost in the mountains of North Carolina.

Lastly, we were at Gospel Light Baptist Church in Covington, Virginia with Pastor Dennis Nicely in their mid-week service on August 28. Staying in Elijah's chamber was quite unique and humbling. This is where the missionaries can house during their stay at the church. What a prophet Elijah was. We pray everyday that we can be a witness for Christ just as he was. Pastor and his dear wife treated us to a wonderful meal before the service. Pastor also allowed me to preach in the service and show our DVD as well. We rejoice for this dear church family and the love they showed to us. Praise the Lord, that they will take us on for support.

Thank you for allowing us to take the time to share with you what the Lord is doing. We know it can be a lot, but we certainly are thankful that we can share this good news with you who are praying so earnestly for us. Our new display board came in this month. We also picked up three new supporters. Thus far we've had 13 meetings, and have 38 meetings coming up. Pray that the Lord would supply ALL the meetings we need in order to return to where God has called us to labor for Him in His harvest. In September, we will be in South Carolina, Georgia, North Carolina, and Virginia once again. Pray for souls to be saved, Christians to be encouraged, and most of all, that one would surrender to the calling of God upon their life. Pray for safety as we continue to travel, and the van the Lord has blessed us with would stay moving. We love you all. Thank you so much again for loving us, and may God bless!

Serving Together With Servants Hearts

Josh, Amy, Abigail & Joel Durden

BIMI Missionaries to Japan

Luke 4:18-19

803-507-5068 (c)

803-279-9426 (h)

joshamy51@yahoo.com