

Flemings Send-Off

Contributed by Administrator admin
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Andy and Tammy Fleming will move from West Los Angeles to Birmingham, England in mid-July to serve as evangelist and women's ministry leader for the Midlands Churches of Christ.

\On behalf of the L.A. Church, I want to say that we are going to miss the Flemings tremendously but we know that God is going to use them powerfully through their move,\ Congregational Evangelist Bruce Williams said. \They will be going with our commendation, deepest affection and respect. We will always be indebted to them for the incredible way in which they have served the L.A. Church family as well as God's entire family around the world.\

The Flemings led the first mission team sent out from L.A. to Moscow. After 8 years in Russia, where they saw God bring thousands of people to Christ, the couple moved back to L.A. to serve in the leadership of the International Churches of Christ. During that time, Andy served with tremendous faith, distinction and integrity. Andy and Tammy later became a vital part of the Ministry Leadership Group of the L.A. Church as well as lead evangelist for the West Region from 2002 to 2005. Since 2005, the couple has spent much of their time strengthening many churches throughout the world.

While having put down deep roots here in L.A., the Fleming family has always felt called by God to return to the mission field outside of the U.S. In 2006, the couple sent an open letter to several churches in the United Kingdom and Sweden, inquiring about whether any churches there were looking to hire an evangelist and women's ministry leader. After many positive responses, six interviews, meetings with various congregations and much prayer and discussion, the Flemings decided on the Midlands Churches of Christ, based in Birmingham, England. The three cities the church includes - Wolverhampton, Leicester and Birmingham - represent a population base of about four million people. The decision to move came as a result of the Flemings feeling the need to be closer to the work in Eurasia and the Middle East as well as the desire to be available to meet needs in the ministries in Sweden and in the United Kingdom.

The Flemings have a rich history on the foreign mission field. Andy, a Canadian, and Tammy, a New Yorker, met in the Boston church and were married in the mission field in Stockholm, Sweden. Their first child was born (Britain Andrea, now 17) while working in the ministry in the Inner South Zone of London, and their second child, Justin, (now 8) was born in Moscow, near the end of their eight years in the ministry in Russia. It was sixteen years ago that the L.A. church sent them out with a bold team of 15 mostly-college-students to plant the church in Moscow, which resulted in 24 church plantings in the former Soviet Union in eight years. Andy has just returned from celebrating the 15th anniversary of one of those plantings - the church in Kiev, Ukraine, which now has over 1900 members.

Andy will continue to serve as Missions Coordinator for the Middle East churches. The Flemings' daughter, Britain, will join the London Church of Christ as a freshman at University College of London. They are all very excited about this new opportunity to serve the churches overseas more directly once again, but will miss the L.A. church very deeply, they said. They ask for us all to continue to remember the Middle East and all foreign missions in our prayers.