



Jon Varner

FRIENDS OF INTERNATIONALS

About the Family

I am happily married to Alana, and we have two boys: Ike and Tobi. Alana grew up here in the Upstate of South Carolina, and she helps me navigate and understand the local culture as we welcome the world. We enjoy living in this very multicultural, but small college town of Clemson. I love that our boys are comfortable being around all kinds of people from all over the world.

I was privileged to grow up a child of missionaries. My parents served in Taiwan with the International Mission Board (IMB) for 33 years. They have now retired and live not too far away from Clemson.

We very much enjoy introducing our international friends to Jesus and to their new local community. Let me encourage, equip and mobilize YOU to share the gospel of Jesus with internationals while they are near.

About My Ministry

We believe international students in North America are the most strategic agents to fulfill the Great Commission. In July 2019, we formed Friends of Internationals, Inc., a nonprofit in partnership with Clemson Baptist Collegiate Ministry (BCM), the South Carolina Baptist Convention and five local associations of churches. In 2008, I got my start as director of international student ministry for the Clemson BCM.

Our three goals: to share the gospel of Jesus Christ with international students, scholars and families; to equip and disciple international student believers to share this gospel wherever God takes them; to equip and involve local believers in touching the world with the gospel of Jesus Christ through ministries to international students.

Find out how you can

Pray.

Participate.

Provide.

PRAY.

Pray the Holy Spirit will prepare the hearts of internationals to hear and respond to the good news about Jesus Christ. Pray associations, churches and individuals will understand that God is bringing international students to college campuses for His purposes. Pray God will raise up volunteers and coworkers. Pray God alone will choose and bring people that they will be taught and equipped that bring Him glory. Pray God will provide abundantly for our family and for the needs of the expanding ministry.

PARTICIPATE

Connect as a partner with our work in Clemson. Commit to long-term missions support (financial) with us, your missionary partner. Befriend a student and his/her family and friends. Let me encourage, equip and mobilize YOU to share the gospel with international students, scholars, staff and their families here in Clemson.

PROVIDE

Many missionaries build a team to join their ministry in prayer, participation, and provision. These friends, family and churches support missionaries beyond the tithes and offerings given within the church plant. Visit sendnetwork.com/PlanterFunding for NAMB's policy on providing for church plants.