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# STAFF Darwin & Darlis Anderson

June 11 July 2

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## **PRAYER REQUESTS**

- Good health, stamina, and safety in our rigorous travel schedule.
- For a hunger to go deeper in loving and serving God.
- Wisdom in daily decisions at home, in the office, and for our staff.
- Please pray that our staff would be bold in planning/requesting ministry teams and that we'd be able to motivate and mobilize the church in America to send people cross-culturally.
   Fear and comfort have overtaken the need to go and share the Gospel.

## SPECIAL REQUESTS

- Ability to balance ministry and family needs Integrity and passion in our personal walk with God
- That our kids will live "ministry as a way of life."
- That our grandchildren would grow up to love Jesus.

# **BACKGROUND**

Darwin: Raised on a farm in northwest Iowa, and the youngest of four children. He attended two years of Bible School at Trinity Western College in Langley, British Columbia, and Northwestern Bible College in Roseville, Minnesota, and received his B.S. in Dairy Science, with a minor in Christian Education, from North Dakota State University in 1975. For the first 13 years after college, he was involved in the dairy industry in owning his own herd of Holsteins, managing a dairy research farm for several years, and working as a management consultant for dairy farmers. In 1990, God moved them out of that career and led them into ministry through their long-time friendship with the Rasmussons, who founded International Messengers. Darwin continues to devote one day per month to dairy consulting to keep him current with the dairy industry.

Darlis: Raised in central North Dakota, one of four children, also in a home where her parents loved the Lord and actively shared their faith with their family and friends. She received her A.A. in Biblical Studies from Trinity Western College in Langley, British Columbia, in 1974. Darlis spent the early years of their marriage—before kids—in secretarial jobs for a junior high school and an insurance company. Now she travels full-time with Darwin, therefore, her time at home or in the IM Home Office, is limited. She is most at home in her kitchen cooking, entertaining, and preserving fruits and vegetables. She also enjoys sewing, her grandkids, and reading. However, she doesn't get as much time with these hobbies as she'd like!

#### **CONVERSION EXPERIENCE**

Darwin: I was raised in a home where Jesus Christ and God's Word were both honored. I put my trust in Jesus Christ as my Savior when I was nine years old after viewing a movie on the life of Tony Fontaine. Initially, it was basically "fire insurance," but later, in high school, my walk with Jesus was deepened by the prayers and example of my youth group leaders. Through all my growing-up years there were several people praying and contributing towards my spiritual growth.

Darlis: I was raised in a home where my parents were godly Christians and we attended church faithfully. As an eight-year-old, during a week at Bible camp, I put my trust in Jesus Christ as my Savior after realizing I didn't have a story on Testimony Night. I struggled for years with the assurance of my salvation because I didn't see any significant changes and hadn't "felt" any change. I received that assurance six years later at an evangelistic crusade in our hometown. There I understood that my salvation was an act of faith and not of feeling, and that by faith I could believe the fact Christ died for my sins and that I was truly forgiven by grace. Since that time, I have been seeking to grow and walk with Christ daily, and desire to know Him better.

## **MINISTRY FOCUS**

Darwin has been president of International Messengers since the death of its founder, Bob Rasmusson, in November 2003. He works in staff leadership and care, administrative oversight, missionary training, development of teaching resources and Bible studies for camps, and recruitment and training of short-term ministry teams from the US. He and Darlis also minister to churches through missionary conferences and pulpit fill, lead ministry teams overseas, and enjoy marriage enrichment ministry. Darlis assists Darwin in his duties as President and supports him administratively. She gives direction in the Home Office, helps plan the annual staff conferences, gives direction to scheduling of trainings, speaks for women's groups, and is involved with Darwin in staff care, administrative decisions, and ministries at conferences and churches. Their extensive travel schedule stateside and overseas keeps them on the road 38-42 weekends per year.

#### **GREATEST HOPES IN MINISTRY**

- To be the sweet aroma of Jesus to everyone we come in contact with.
- To see our neighbors come to Christ.
- To see the North American churches regain their heart for evangelism.
- To see lots of short-term teams filled to capacity, to be able to travel and do camps, and to see the Gospel spread.
- To lead and serve well, with humility, grace, and love.
- To be available when the Lord asks us to be and not "protect" our schedule.