

Michelle Phagan

Former Missionary to Iceland with Baptist Bible Fellowship in Springfield, MO

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To whom it may concern:

My name is Michelle Phagan and I am a former missionary to Iceland with the Baptist Bible Fellowship in Springfield, MO. I resided in Iceland and worked with Patrick and Victoria Weimer, current missionaries to Iceland with Baptist Missions to Forgotten Peoples in Jacksonville, FL, from September 2001 until July 2013. I left Iceland to marry my husband in July 2013. My husband and I currently reside in Pampa, Texas where I am a teacher for the Pampa Independent School District.

I have known William Weimer since he was 2 years old and watched him grow up and help alongside his parents and me in the ministry in Iceland. I remember when he got saved at a young age, but was very sure of his need of a Savior and that by trusting in Christ, he had assurance of his salvation and was baptized thereafter. During the time that I was in Iceland, I saw William start out as a participant in the ministry as a child. At that time, the ministry in Iceland was mostly a children's ministry and since he was a child, he took part in the activities just as all the other Icelandic children. Because of this active participation, he learned Icelandic quite well and is able to converse with Icelanders easily and fluently. As he grew older, he became more of a helper in the ministry by assisting with visitation, maintenance of the church and grounds, getting to know the people who came to church, and trying to witness for Christ to reach others. As a teenager, he learned teaching strategies and techniques both from his parents and me that he now continues to use and expound upon in the ministry today.

William has always been very personable, quick to get to know someone and make that person feel comfortable and important. He has a great sense of humor, but is also able to concentrate and give respect in areas that require it. He has always been willing to help in anything that was needed and would stay until the job was done. He is a hard worker and strives to do his best in all that he does and all that is given to him. He is the type of person to whom you can give responsibilities and he will be faithful to complete it. If he has a question, he will ask, but is also able to make his own determination about what should be done when the situation requires it. One particular quality that I've always admired about William is that he genuinely cares about people. He actively listens to people when they talk and makes an effort to engage with people. He looks at situations from a different angle than others and that gives him a unique perspective on situations. I remember one particular situation that his mother related to me after she had a miscarriage. She told me William said, "Mom, I am really sorry about Sarah, but it is kind of hard because I didn't really know her. I'm more sorry for you and how sad it has made you because you're my mom and I love you." He was rather young when that happened, but it showed a level of understanding of the situation beyond what most children his age would have had. He also had a desire to take someone else's hurt away and help them feel better. That is William. He is a genuine Christian with a genuine desire to get to know people and help people, and more importantly, help people come to know the Lord.

I firmly believe William would be an asset to your organization and would be a blessing to the people to whom the Lord brings to him.

Sincerely,



Title: Former missionary to Iceland

Email: coffee_my_crafts201@outlook.com

Phone: 870-847-0383

Address: 1837 N. Sumner St. Pampa, TX 79065