AUTUMN 2020

## BONINS IN Belgium

LATEST NEWS FROM BLAIR & DINA



"From the end of the earth will I cry unto thee, when my heart is overwhelmed: lead me to the rock that is higher than I." Psalm 61:2

Have you ever felt overwhelmed by the churning vortex of surrounding circumstances? That you weren't sure you could weather another tossing of your plans leaving you in constant limbo? Can anyone say **ANNO 2020**?! What a maelstrom it has been...and still is.

I (Blair) was recently in the Pacific Northwest for meetings with current and potential missions supporters, acquiring a second hand car for our daughter, and marveling at God's handiwork of Oregon's forests, mountains and shores just before the wild fire catastrophe. I was standing at what seemed like the ends of the earth on the coast looking down into a cauldron of swirling, agitated waters, when I noticed a

rock that was much "higher than I" rising out of the Pacific Ocean while the sun began to set. I was reminded of **him WHO holds the future**, along with the past and present - and that is not the World Health Organization!

We began the new year clipping right along in a rhythm of regular travels and speaking engagements about missions and student ministry, oblivious to the coming whirlwind that would become known as Covid-19, and that would bring our itineration rhythm to an abrupt and complete standstill. From mid-March until June all of our speaking engagements were cancelled, and, in Europe, SFC meetings could no longer be held in person, **but the ministry and missions work have continued in spite of a virus.** We have reports of students coming to SFC for the first time through video meetings, and new groups are still being formed. Now, the challenges local SFC ministries across Europe are facing look differently as face-to-face meetings begin. In some cities attendees must register ahead of time, and interest has been so great students are turned away because of building limitations. Even open air meetings have been carefully monitored by police, requiring one SFC gathering to split into multiple groups to continue. **Please pray that the Holy Spirit would be at work in these situations**.

Thankfully, our itineration rhythm has slowly begun to take traction again this summer. We hit the road for missions in beautiful Colorado, Indiana, and of course, Louisiana. Blair taught a Theology of Missions course for the La AG Network School of Ministry, and we've had opportunities to lend a helping hand in hurricane-ravaged, Lake Charles, LA. We are now poised for an **early December departure** back to our field of service pending the remainder of our budget being raised and Covid-19 restrictions permitting.

To those of you who have been giving to this work of reaching and discipling university students for Christ across Europe and praying for our family, **MERCI BEAUCOUP!** You are deeply esteemed for your partnership in the gospel!

~ Blair, Dina and Josiah

If you have yet to partner with us and would desire to do so, we are in need of 20 more commitments at \$20/month... bite-sized and do-able for most. Giving link: <u>s1.aq.org/bonin</u> Thank you in advance!

Check out <u>www.BoninsinBelgium.com</u> for more photos & updates and to sign up for our email newsletter.

