## BONINS IN BELGIUM latest news from Blair & Dina

Winter 2025

## Dear friends,

*GRATEFUL*. We know that the seasons are slowly changing from the dark of winter to the sunshine of spring, and that the Thanksgiving holiday is far behind us. But "grateful" is still the word that comes to mind as we reflect on the last few months. First, **we are grateful for you**, our friends and family. Some of you we've known all of our lives; others of you, we haven't yet met in person! But your support of us in prayer, finances, and in the regular check-ins to see how we're doing are a huge part of what has kept us going these last 30 years since we first moved to Belgium. Thank you for being a long haul, faithful lifeline!

Another reason for our tribute of gratitude has recently marked us with jaw-dropping amazement at what we are seeing come to pass here in this country. In February, Blair was invited to preach an ordination service of a former Students for Christ-Belgium student leader who has since become the pastor of their growing congregation. It was a joyful celebration of recognition of how Jean-Pierre and Coco have dedicated their lives, family, and service to the Lord, which we have personally witnessed since we first met in the year 2003. As we contemplated this event, we were astounded as we began to count the

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number of **former SFC student leaders who have been called into pastoral ministry**. There are no less than TEN couples who are now pastoring churches or are preparing to do so - 20 men and women on the front lines, reaching their communities, discipling new believers, couples, and families, who in turn continue to do the same for others. And nearly all of them are bi-vocational pastors with marketplace influence! We can safely say this was not even a dream within the core team back when we held our first SFC meetings, but to see it come to pass today makes us so very ... **grateful**. By the way, Jean-Pierre and Coco's oldest son is now a burgeoning leader in the SFC group at Louvain-la-Neuve where we first began.

Thank you for continuing to pray for us and this ministry to which God continues to call us. We need wisdom and clarity as we navigate exciting new doors for missional service opening up on the horizon. All for Jesus,  $\int_{a_n} \delta \int_{a_n} \delta \int_{a_n} \delta \delta da$ 





*(left)* Birthday Burgers on Josiah's 18th. He began classes at ORU in Tulsa the next day, and we started on our way home without him. (Consider this a prayer request!)

(*right*) Blair speaking at a Christmas service in Ciney where we were on the church planting team back in 1996. We were happy to have our neighbors and our former landlady and some of her family as guests that day. (We invite you to lift them up in prayer as well.)

*(bottom)* Our first official trip as empty-nesters was to our annual SFC-Europe prayer weekend in Copenhagen. We are grateful for our colleagues who came to pray and participate in planning and other discussions to help SFC become better and better! (Thanks for praying for SFC, too!)



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