

Hello, My name is Al Baker.

Thank you, Pastor, for allowing me to share this 10 minute video with your church.

I was ordained in the Assemblies of God in 1995.

I have served as a pastor for just over 30 years.

In 1997 I moved my family to Scotland where I completed a Ph.D. in early church history.

I pastored a small AG church in Dundee, Scotland while I worked on my degree.

Here are my favorite photos of my wife with each of our daughters.



So, this is Heather.

We have been married for 42 years.

Hope is 35 and
Erin is 30.

They both live in Denver and both
are social workers.

My expertise is the first 300 years of
Church History.

I also teach various classes in
New Testament studies.

In 2023 I was in my 8th year at a
small AG church in a small university
town where I also taught as an
adjunct.

Continental Theological Seminary - CTS, in Brussels, Belgium reached out to me with an invitation to join their faculty.

Around a year ago I resigned from my church to join the CTS faculty... and I taught my first semester.



So I am now working as a short-term missionary with World Missions.

I teach remotely in the Fall and I live on campus in the Spring and teach full-time in Belgium.

My wife and I agreed to this schedule which allows her to be close to her elderly father - he lives in San Antonio and she wants to stay with him for around a week every few months.

My wife will join me again for a month in March to celebrate our 43rd anniversary and spend some time together.

[3 min]

CTS is the only seminary in the Assemblies of God to reach Europe and Africa.

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Right now only 2% of the population in Europe is evangelical.

20% of the population is Catholic.

There are more truly Catholic Christians in Europe than there are evangelicals.

The need is great.
THAT is why CTS is important.

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Our seminary just celebrated it's 65th anniversary.

This school has trained hundreds of young men and women for full-time ministry.

Probably 60% of our students either have a parent who graduated from CTS...OR they go to a church that is pastored by a graduate of CTS.

We had around 140 students prior to COVID.

We are still rebuilding.

We had around 75 students last year.

In the four classes I taught I had students from:

Belgium, France, Portugal,
Netherlands, Austria, Germany,
Romania, Kenya and Nigeria...
and finally Reunion Island.

Reunion Island is a small island off
the western coast of Madagascar...
which is off the coast of southern
Africa.



Around 30 years ago a young man from Reunion Island came to CTS... graduated, and felt led to start an Assembly of God Church on the island.

A revival broke out...
hundreds were saved...

and now we have 3-4 churches on Reunion Island...

And we currently have around a dozen students from there.

Hopefully, I have clearly shared with you the multi-generational witness our school has in Europe already.

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I love teaching at CTS.

As a missionary I do not get paid...

In fact, I rent a small apartment from the school and buy a meal plan.

I eat 90% of my meals with the students...and that is a highlight for me.

There are around 15 students who sit around me...mostly young men... I keep them entertained.

I tell them stories of all the stupid things I've done in my life....

I tell them funny, but instructive stories from my pastoral ministry.

Those mealtimes have opened the door for many great conversations about ministry...

the Bible, Church History...

They like to ask me about my views on a broad range of spiritual topics.

These are very sharp young men and women. They are dedicated not only to live for Jesus...

AND work for the kingdom...

But they also work hard at their studies.

[7 min]

I believe in the mission of the school...

AND I love teaching and mentoring students.

This is mission work.

Once I agreed to teach at CTS,

Both my wife and I started collecting Social Security benefits.

AND we are also on Medicare.

In addition,
I have a consulting job for 1/2 dozen
small business owners across the
USA.

ALL of this enables me to teach at
CTS without having to raise a ton of
money.

My budget is around \$10,000/year.
This is for my airfare, housing and
food.

If you have a missionary wall, I
would be honored to be on that wall.

Thank you for your time.

Please pray for me when this video
is ends.

Pray for God to help me train future
pastors, youth pastors and worship
leaders...

To serve in Europe, Africa
and in Muslim nations where we
have ongoing ministry.

Thank you.