

STEPHEN & JULIE KNICKERBOCKER BURKINA FASO

December 2013

Dear Pastors, supporting churches and praying friends,

Survey Trip in Burkina Faso

We praise the Lord for answered prayers concerning our survey trip. Our journey went well and the Lord preserved our health as we sought to discover and familiarize ourselves with the Burkinabé lifestyle. It was great to spend time with the Shumaker family, missionaries to Burkina Faso for the past eight years, with whom we will be beginning our ministry in the country. They have continually been a blessing to us, a great help, and an encouragement as we prepare to move to Africa. It was also a blessing to renew fellowship with some of the Christians and pastors I had met five years prior to this trip. Julie and I had the privilege to participate in the ministry through testimonies, preaching, giving out the Gospel, and fellowship with the Christian Burkinabés. We took many photos, some of which are available on our website at knickinburkinafaso.com. While looking around town, we found most of the household items and furniture we will need to live in Burkina Faso. We were so excited to find out that we will not be needing to ship a container, simply a small crate. This will save us a considerably large amount of money. We also found out that Burkina Faso has a large amount of French imported foods and other goods that we have both grown up with as children which we enjoy to this day! After two weeks of being in the country, it was difficult to pack our things, leave the field, and begin our journey back to America. The excitement has picked up, especially for Julie, who had not been in Burkina Faso before this trip. We are now more eager to finish up deputation and to come back to serve the Lord in Burkina Faso. Thank you for all those who have labored in prayer for us.

Merry Christmas

We hope all of you had a blessed Christmas time with your families. After our two week trip to Burkina Faso, we came back to France to spend Christmas with our family. It had been a little over two years since we had all been together. What a thrill it was to exchange testimonies and recall God's hand in each one of our lives. Dad gave me the opportunity to minister through preaching on the last Sunday morning of the year. I really enjoyed preaching in French. I also had the privilege to sing a duet with my brother Marc as he was playing the piano. Marc is my youngest brother whom I vividly remember holding in my arms when he was just a newborn. How time has flown! I am thankful for the precious family God has given me and cherish the time we spent with them.

End of the Year Praise

I was recently asked the question: "What is the greatest lesson you've learned on deputation?" I replied that I have learned that I have been given the privilege to present to churches all across the nation, a country and a people that stand in need of God's word, which most people never knew existed. What an honor to represent the Lord Jesus Christ in Burkina Faso. It has been thrilling to witness church members all across America pray for us and for the ministry that God has called us to do. This is a priceless treasure. Deputation is a wonderful time! After fifteen months, we are receiving 69% of our needed financial support and are trusting God to provide the remainder of our needed funds. Lord willing, we will be concluding our deputation time and will be moving to the field all in the year 2014. Thank you for your investment in the work of the Lord. Looking unto Jesus,

Stephen & Julie Knickerbocker

"...present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service." - Romans 12:1

Prayer Requests

-Salvation of lost souls around us as we give the Gospel
-More supporting churches
-Wisdom in scheduling meetings for 2014
-Julie's health: We are trying out new asthma medication and had to begin another one month steroid treatments.
-We are praying about a specific date to leave America and move to Burkina Faso.

Praises

-We had a successful trip in Burkina Faso.
-God gave us a measure of strength and health, in spite of Julie's asthma, to investigate the living conditions and local goods available.
-We are receiving 69% of needed financial support.
-Every thing went smoothly on our many flights to France and Africa.
-We had a wonderful Christmas time with the family.

Contact Information

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Sending Church

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Missions Agency

• WWNTBM
• P.O. Box 725
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Birthdays

• Stephen 9/15
• Julie 9/26
• Anniversary 8/7