

# STEPHEN & JULIE KNICKERBOCKER BURKINA FASO

**May 2016**

Dear Pastors, supporting churches and praying friends,

## The Church Building

Thanks be to God for the advancement of the construction of the church facility. Up to this point, the floor is done, the walls are finished, the roof is working properly, the doors and windows are installed, and we have had a few wooden benches made. The meetings have already been held at this new location and the faithful folks are excited about the building project and are contributing each week to the building fund. We want to thank the churches who have donated for the construction of the building. As of now, the next step will be to add electricity. This is a lengthy, but necessary process which will ensure good lighting in the building, especially for the evening meetings. We will also be able to add a few ceiling fans down the road. It is exciting to see the folks faithfully coming to the Bible studies and volunteering for the advancement of the ministry.

## Special Meetings

The Lord gave us the opportunity to teach and preach in two churches this month, other than our regular meetings held for Bible study. One church held a « Bible Night » where there was preaching, singing, and fellowship based primarily on the subject of the importance of the Bible. We were also invited to a missions conference where I was asked to be the main speaker. The theme of the conference was « our responsibility in missions. »

## Preparing to Leave

For several months, we have started to make preparations for our trip to France for the birth of our baby girl. Brother Jean Bosco has started to help me with the teaching of the Bible lessons. We have been working on refining certain things so that he will be best prepared to keep going with the ministry in our absence. We have also spent the majority of this last month translating several series of lessons for Sunday school and the Bible studies to aid Mr. Bosco with the teaching and preparation time. We have also been able to put together a small song book of French Hymns and Moré choruses. The last few Sundays of the month, it was encouraging to see the unity among the church folks. Several expressed that they would like to begin helping with the soul-winning effort but they did not know how to do it. For this, we have prepared a series of lesson, which have already been taught extensively to Mr. Bosco, on « Fishing for Men. » Mr. Bosco will be teaching and continuing in the same direction to help train and equip the faithful. Our prayer is that the ministry would advance during our absence as we know that our Savior is the owner and builder of His church. Thank you for your prayers, encouragement, and partnership in the work of the Lord. Looking unto Jesus,

*Stephen & Julie Knickerbocker*

*“And that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. And ye are witnesses of these things”*

*Luc 24:47-48*



New location next to a main road



Jean Bosco at the main entrance



The building can hold 100 people

## Prayer Requests

- Continued health
- Stable job for Aimer
- Mayors are elected: we will now be waiting to hear about a property we have requested to acquire from the government.
- Wisdom and health for Jean Bosco as he replaces us in our absence.
- New contacts who desire to begin bible studies, especially in the new area of the church building location
- Construction of a storage room to be completed behind our house (almost done!)
- Omar will be paying the traditional « dote » for his wedding and families need to agree
- We will be meeting with a doctor in France concerning the birth of baby K.

## Praise Reports

- Julie and the baby are healthy.
- We were able to accomplish the translation of many Sunday school lessons and put together a small songbook.
- Wonderful time teaching the missions conference
- We completed the « Potential Members Training class » this last Sunday morning.

## Contact Information

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## Field Address:

- Stephen Knickerbocker
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- Burkina Faso
- Field Phone Number:
- (226) 67-40-36-19

## Sending Church

- Temple Baptist Church
- Pastor Clarence Sexton
- 1700 W. Beaver Creek Dr.
- Powell, TN 37849
- (865) 938-8182
- [templebaptistchurch.com](http://templebaptistchurch.com)

## Missions Agency

- WWNTBM
- P.O. Box 725
- Kings Mountain, NC 28086
- [wwntbm.com](http://wwntbm.com)

## Birthdays

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