

STEPHEN & JULIE KNICKERBOCKER BURKINA FASO

July 2016

Dear Pastors, supporting churches and praying friends,

The Lord's Supper

As the Lord gives us the opportunity to minister in France, it is thrilling to see God at work. My father asked me earlier in the month to lead a church meeting in the which we would partake of the Lord's Supper. This was the first opportunity I was ever given to lead this sober moment. The Lord led me to organize and theme the entire meeting around the Lord's Supper and the memorial of our Savior's redeeming sacrifice to purchase our salvation on the cross through His shed blood. I always participated in the Lord's Supper with a serious and grateful attitude, but to lead this spiritual moment was a grand privilege. This was a tremendous experience for the ministry, especially as we are in the beginnings of starting a church where we will eventually take the Lord's Supper.

Update from Burkina

As I forward the report of our brother Jean Bosko from Burkina Faso, we are thankful for the continuing work of God in the church plant. Brother Bosko has let us know that the folks are coming faithfully and that they have also had first time visitors. He has also taken the initiative to wire the building for electricity with the help of a young man who has been faithful to come to the Bible studies and happens to be a certified electrician. We now have lighting for the evening meetings and will eventually be able to put in ceiling fans. Omar, a recent convert, was planning to pay a dowry for his wife this month, but due to the rains and lack of good roads from village to village, he will plan to wait until we return. Before our departure, we started raising chickens. We were a bit hesitant to leave them, especially since we have no experience in raising animals, but we are glad to report that with the help of Mr. Bosko and our house guards, they are all still alive, and have produced good eggs and 12 chicks.

Update on Julie and Baby

This entire month has been dedicated to taking trips to the hospital, getting different blood tests, weekly fetal monitoring, and patiently awaiting and preparing for our daughter's arrival. She has decided to come a bit later than her estimated due date, but the doctors are confident that she is healthy and that we should not rush her. Julie's platelet count is still considered low, but is stable and out of the « danger zone. » We are thankful that the doctors and midwives are keeping such a close eye on Julie and baby, going out of their way to make sure all is well. Please keep praying as we will be preparing for the very soon and upcoming birth. Pray the Lord will give Julie the strength she needs, keep our little girl safe and healthy. We are eager and trusting the Lord that we will get to experience the great joy accompanied with receiving a child into this world.

Thank you for your prayers, encouragement, and partnership in the work of the Lord.
Looking unto Jesus,

Stephen & Julie Knickerbocker

“After the same manner also he took the cup, when he had supped, saying, This cup is the new testament in my blood: this do ye, as oft as ye drink it, in remembrance of me.” - 1 Corinthians 11:25

Prayer Requests

- Continued health
- Stable job for Aimer
- Wisdom and health for Jean Bosko as he replaces us in our absence.
- Faithfulness of the members in training to the church meetings during our absence.
- Julie's platelet count needs to stay elevated.
- A healthy and safe delivery.
- One of our house guards, Paul, recently lost his mother.
- Teens camp in Burkina
- Our Missionary friends, The Rishel family, will be arriving in Burkina August 9th to begin training with the Shumaker family.

Praise Reports

- We have had several ministry and preaching opportunities since our arrival.
- We meet once a week with the doctor and midwives. All is well with the baby. She is scheduled to come in early August.
- There were a few visitors who came to the church meeting in Burkina Faso in our absence.
- Thank you to many who have prayed for Julie's low platelet complications-her blood work has been stable all month.

Contact Information

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Sending Church

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

Missions Agency

- WWNTBM
- P.O. Box 725
- Kings Mountain, NC 28086
- wwntbm.com

Birthdays

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