

# STEPHEN & JULIE KNICKERBOCKER BURKINA FASO

**February 2017**

Dear Pastors, supporting churches and praying friends,

## Ladies Ministry

Earlier this month, a missionary friend of ours asked if Julie would be willing to come and teach some pastor's wives to decorate cakes with fondant. It was a joy for her to use a skill she has always enjoyed and share it with other ladies in Burkina Faso. Noticing that Alina did well through this teaching session and was able to entertain herself, Julie decided that now would be a good time to begin holding ladies meetings at the church. We are thrilled to announce that this month marked the beginning of the monthly ladies meetings. Julie has been able to begin planning and working out ways to reach the ladies in the neighborhood and encourage those who faithfully attend the church meetings. Once a month, we will hold a ladies meeting in which the women will continually receive a clear presentation of the gospel, practical teaching from God's word, and learn a new skill. We were blessed to have 10 ladies come to the first meeting. They were taught Leah's story and learned to make banana doughnuts. This also prompted the beginning of the ladies visitation and soul-winning effort. Our desire is for these ladies to trust Christ as their Savior, grow in their faith through the teachings, and be encouraged and uplifted through fellowship. We pray many will mature in their faith and show leadership skills so that they may one day be leading their own ladies meetings and ladies evangelistic outreaches. Thank you for your continual prayers concerning this important ministry.

## First Couples Meeting

The Lord allowed us to organize our first couples meeting. We had three couples attending and had an encouraging time of fellowship, teaching, eating and games. In traditional African culture, the wife does all the work while the husband sits around acting like a dictator. I taught on the subject of needing a help meet to help with the work. If Adam needed help, that would clearly insinuate that he was busy. It warmed our hearts to see these couples desire to have a Biblical marriage; one that honors the Lord and each other. Those that attended left encouraged and expressed their eagerness to attend the next couple's meeting.



## Short Trip to the USA

We will be making a three week trip to America from the 17th of April to the 8th of May 2017. The purpose of this trip is to renew some paperwork. During this time, we will have the opportunity to be back with our home church in Knoxville, TN. We will also make a detour up to Canada to introduce Julie's mother and brother to Alina. Because of the nature of our trip, we will be very limited to visit supporting churches. If you are interested in having us come for a visit, please contact us as soon as possible. Our available meeting dates are Wednesday, April 26th, and Sunday, May 7th. We will be in the northern Virginia area on those dates.

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

*Stephen & Julie Knickerbocker*

*"And the Lord God said, It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him an help meet for him." - Genesis 2:18*

## Prayer Requests

- Spiritual growth of the church
- A pastor to train
- A stable job for Aimer
- Making disciples
- Salvation of souls
- Omar and Bienvenu opposed by their family
- Salvation of Safi (Omar's wife)
- Permanent property for the church (\$40,000)
- Favor with the community and mayor's office

## Praise Reports

- Our family is healthy
- Alina is full of energy
- First organized couple's meeting.
- First ladies meeting
- First ladies evangelization and visitation outreach.

## Contact Information

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## Field Address:

- Stephen Knickerbocker
- 10 BP 13671 Ouagadougou 10
- 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

## Missions Agency

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

## Birthdays

- Stephen 9/15
- Julie 9/26
- Alina 8/12
- Anniversary 8/7