

STEPHEN & JULIE KNICKERBOCKER BURKINA FASO

November 2017

Dear Pastors, supporting churches and praying friends,

First Missions Conference

A year has passed since starting Bible Baptist Church of Boulmiougou and we were excited to hold our first conference on the subject of World Evangelism and Finances. From the very beginning of this church plant, I have often repeated to the faithful members the importance to have a vision to reach this lost and dying world with the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ. We have prepared the church for this conference by printing a monthly prayer list which contained a Burkinabé town or city, an African country and a distant country around the world. I believe it is important from the start to look on the fields and pray the Lord of the harvest to send forth laborers into his harvest. It is so important for our church folks to realize that they can have a world wide impact through the powerful ministry of prayer. We held 4 days of meetings dealing with a diversity of subjects, from personal evangelism to personal giving and finances. Please pray for several of our church folks who do not have a regular income. We have a few people that give regularly, but it is out of convenience. Pray for the church members to trust God for their needs.

The Anniversary of the Church

Not long after our missions conference, we celebrated the church's first anniversary. What an encouragement it was to listen to the testimonies of several men in the church. Bienvenu, of whom we spoke at length in our last prayer letter, spoke of how Christ completely changed his life this past year. This young man is growing in his faith, and has grown from being timid to being bold in proclaiming Christ. He gave a powerful testimony which soon turned to preaching. Looking back on this first year, we recall many ups and downs and people coming and going, but we are thrilled for the small part that God has allowed us to invest in the precious lives of these burkinabé. We also have a new young man who has been coming faithfully for 2 months. Blaise works every other Sunday but is faithful to every meeting when he is free from work. I started Bible studies with Blaise and he told me that what he likes most at our church is the teaching of the Word of God.



Baby on the way

We have the pleasure to announce that we are expecting a baby. Julie has completed her first trimester and is presently doing well. It has been a bit rough this time around with morning (or rather, all day) sickness. She has been getting tired quickly, but has still been able to keep busy during the month. Please keep her and this new little life in your prayers, that she and baby may stay healthy. We are excited about this additional blessing that the Lord has allowed to come our way. Julie has spent the better part of the month training a burkinabé in soap making. He is now training another, and we are working hard at building a small inventory of soaps in order to soon sell to nearby shops. Every Wednesday, she has also been teaching a pedagogy class, helping a sister church in training teachers and workers for their children's programs and classroom management.

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

Stephen & Julie Knickerbocker

"Go home to thy friends, and tell them how great things the Lord hath done for thee..." - Mark 5:19

Prayer Requests

- Funds to purchase property for the church (\$40,000)
- Spiritual and physical growth of the church
- A pastor to train
- Salvation of Zeinaba & Abdoulaye
- A stable job for Vincent and Serge
- Healthy pregnancy and healthy baby
- Bienvenu's University education
- Lucy's spiritual growth
- soap and taxi-moto business

Praise Report

- A total of \$12,297 has been donated for the land purchase!
- We are in the paperwork and negotiation process of acquiring a specific parcel of land. More details to follow next month.
- Another baby on the way
- Great thanksgiving celebrations: twice with Burkinabé friends and once with missionary friends.

Contact Information

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Sending Church

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Missions Agency

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Birthdays

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