

# STEPHEN & JULIE KNICKERBOCKER BURKINA FASO

**February 2018**

Dear Pastors, supporting churches and praying friends,

## A faithful man

Joyful was the occasion to baptize a young man named Blaise Doamba. This young man first came to our church in October of last year and was looking for a new home church since he was relocated into our area for work. He said that he was Christian, but when I asked him about being born again, he referred to his baptism and church attendance. I rapidly noticed that his faith was not grounded in the sacrifice of Christ for his redemption from sin. I proceeded to declare the Gospel to him and he understood what was lacking in his life- Christ. He prayed to trust Christ as his personal Savior and has since shown fruit that remains to this day. Not only has he been faithful to the church meetings, when he is free from work, but he has been helping with the soul winning efforts. He is looking for a new job that would free him up to be more involved in ministry. He told me that what he appreciates with our church is the clear teaching of the Bible which was absent in the previous church he attended. It was my pleasure to baptize him this month and to share this testimony of his changed life because of the prayers and giving of God's people.

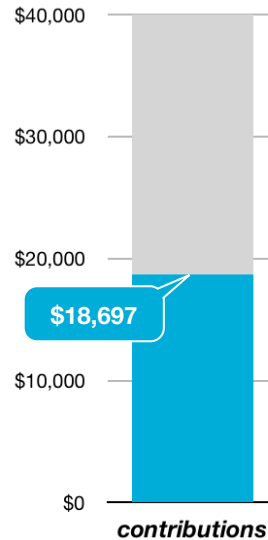
## Couple's meeting

Valentine's day was a special time when we organized our second annual couple's meeting. Since most of the folks that come to our church are single, we only had two couples with us. The evening was animated with a meal, a teaching on marriage, and a few games. If you remember from our last update, Mr. Batian trusted Christ as Savior and had been coming to our church meetings with his wife. We had a special time with these couples, encouraging them to make their family a testimony of the light of Christ. The following week, we held a prayer meeting in Omar's home and he invited some of his neighbors to attend. It was a blessing to hear that six of his neighbors which attended had very positive things to say concerning the prayer meeting. Most prayer meetings in Burkina are loud and obnoxious. People yell, fall, and have all sorts of emotional experiences. Those prayer meetings can last hours, some even last all night, bothering neighbors who develop a strong hatred for these so-called "prayer meetings". Our prayer meeting was quite the opposite. We prayed with a normal speaking voice. one after the other, read a passage of scripture and enjoyed a time of fellowship. Some people never knew that prayer meetings were possible any other way than what they had seen and heard in the past. It is evident that Omar's testimony, along with Mr. Batian's, has had an impact in their neighborhood. We are praying about beginning a weekly Bible study in Omar's neighborhood since they are about 30 minutes travel distance from our church's meeting place. Help us pray about the possible beginning of this weekly Bible study when we return from our Medical furlough.

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

*Stephen & Julie Knickerbocker*

*"And this commandment have we from him,  
That he who loveth God love his brother also." - 1 John 4:21*



*Baptism of Blaise Doamba*



*Omar and Safi on Valentine's day*

## 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 Batian, Vincent, Christian, and Serge
- Healthy pregnancy for Julie and healthy baby Knickerbocker
- Bienvenu's University education
- The spiritual growth of Batian, Dieu Le Grand, Lucy, Blaise and Yvette
- Soap and taxi-moto business
- Preparations for our medical furlough (**March 22 - July 19**).

## Praise Report

- We baptized Blaise Doamba
- Our open dates for scheduling meetings have been filled
- An additional **\$2,500** has been donated for land purchase
- We will be presenting our ministry in 4 new churches on our medical furlough

## Contact Information

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Burkina Faso  
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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  
Alina 8/12  
Anniversary 8/7