

STEPHEN & JULIE KNICKERBOCKER BURKINA FASO

July 2018

Dear Pastors, supporting churches and praying friends,

Back home

After a long trip to Burkina Faso, we are finally back and settled into our house. Thanks to our missionary friends, the Rishel, and some church members, we returned to a clean and orderly home. Their keeping up with our house while we were gone was a tremendous blessing to our family upon our return. We are thankful that most of every thing was found the way it was left, if not better. Miraculously, our chickens are still living, our plants are green and growing, our guards stayed at their post, and our house is mold free. It has been wonderful to get back into a daily work schedule and into our weekly routine, especially for our darling daughters.

Progress in our absence

It was a joy to see the church members still attending church when we got back! We had 4 first time visitors on our first Sunday home and two have returned the following Sunday. We are greatly encouraged to see the church's progress in our absence. This is especially true for Aimé and Bienvenu who were given the big responsibility of studying and teaching these last three and half months. These two young men have worked together to encourage and keep the excitement within the church activities and they are a great encouragement to me. They have also shown incredible maturity, improvement, and boldness in their speaking since we left. In addition to teaching during the church gatherings, Bienvenu completed a discipleship series with Blaise. We also found out that Blaise has completed his Bible reading plan in May, which means that he read through the Bible in five months. Christine also faithfully held monthly women's meetings and taught lessons to the ladies in attendance. Her and Judith even worked together to teach how to bake a cake without an oven!

New Bible Study

Omar and Safi have a vibrant testimony in their neighborhood. They have several of their neighbors who are interested in coming to church but they do not have means of transportation. After talking for months about starting a Bible study in Omar's home, we finally held the first meeting on the last Tuesday of this month. We are planning to make this a weekly Bible study with a soul winning effort before the meeting. Please pray for this new and exciting outreach ministry.

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

Looking unto Jesus,

Stephen & Julie Knickerbocker

*"I have no greater joy than to hear that my children walk in truth."
- 3 John 4*

Prayer Requests

- Youth camp in August (13-17)
- VBS on the last week of August
- To purchase the right property for the church**
- Spiritual and physical growth of the church
- A pastor to train
- Salvation of Zeinaba & Abdoulaye
- A stable job for Batian, Vincent, Christian, David and Serge
- Continued health as we adjust back to African life
- Bienvenu's University education
- The spiritual growth of Batian, Dieu Le Grand, and Christian
- Soap and taxi-moto business
- New Bible study and soul-winning outreach on Tuesday nights**

Praise Report

- We have arrived safely home**
- Julie and the girls are doing well.
- We are encouraged by the spiritual progress and positive attitude of the church folks.

Contact Information

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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

Missions Agency

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

Birthdays

- Stephen 9/15
- Julie 9/26
- Alina 8/12
- Kezia 5/26
- Anniversary 8/7