

STEPHEN & JULIE KNICKERBOCKER BURKINA FASO

December 2019

Dear Pastors, supporting churches and praying friends,



Help from sister churches

One of the national pastors visited me at the end of November and proposed to set up a work day with sister churches in the capital city to help pour the flooring for our church auditorium. I immediately jumped on the idea and on the first Saturday of December, two other churches of like faith joined us for a full construction work day. We mixed the concrete by hand and poured over two tons of cement for the auditorium floor. We had wonderful fellowship throughout the day and were encouraged to have brethren helping us with this big step on the church's building project.

Meeting on new property

With the cement floor freshly poured on the first Saturday of December, we were able to hold our first meeting as a church family the next day. Everyone was thrilled for this transition and to finally begin meeting on a property that can be called our own. Please continue to pray for the construction to keep moving as there is still much to be done to close in the auditorium. We still need to build the nursery, Sunday school class, and office. We also had professionals install the plumbing and electricity in the bathroom, kitchen and apartment and will soon be able to make the finishing touches on that side of the project.



Back in the US for safety

Because of the constant decline of security in Burkina Faso, we returned to the USA on the 11th of December. We have met with our pastor and he has been very encouraging and supportive to us during this trying time in our lives and ministry. As we look to the future, it is currently unclear what God has for us concerning ministering in Burkina Faso, but we are persuaded that He will direct us clearly into the next steps that need to be taken. As of today, we will be taking the next 6 months to assess the security situation for improvements and seek God about His leading in our ministry. During these 6 months, I will be planning to make several 1 month trips back to Burkina by myself, the first of which is set for January 2020. On this first trip, I will go back to help the church move forward, conduct a wedding ceremony for Omar and Safi, resume pastoral training for Bienvenu, and help the construction project to move forward. Please pray for safety at this time, for wisdom, and for Julie and the kids who will be staying in America in my absence.

Because of the uncertainty of ministry in Burkina, I will attempt to set the direction of the church in motion to continue without our presence being required. While stateside, I will keep working on the material for the teacher's guide for the new members class. I am also continuing to compose and translate lessons to be taught during the Bible studies. Please help us pray for wisdom as we work with the church to get it to an autonomous state.

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

Stephen & Julie Knickerbocker

"Being confident of this very thing, that he which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ:" - Philippians 1:6

Prayer Requests

- Trip back to Burkina Faso in January
- Church to move forward during our absence
- Provision for our temporary move to the US
- Wisdom in planning trips back to the Burkina to carry on with the ministry
- Car debt: \$5,000.
- Building funds: \$8,152 needed
- Safety and wisdom for church construction project
- Transition of the church to the new property
- The fight against terrorism in Burkina Faso
- Spiritual and physical growth of the church
- A stable job for Vincent, Blaise, David, Bienvenu, and Serge

Praise Report

- 2 sister churches helped us pour the flooring for the auditorium
- The church is now meeting on the new property
- We made safely back to the US and have spent a wonderful end of the year with family

Contact Information

- knickinburkina@gmail.com
- knickinburkinafaso.com

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
- Kezia 5/26
- Anniversary 8/7