

The **KNICKERBOCKER** family

church planting in Burkina Faso

April 2021

Dear Pastors, supporting churches and praying friends,

Family health

Korben was born with a small cyst on his neck. Although it is harmless, his pediatrician recommended we consider getting it removed before heading back to Burkina because of a risk of infection and other related complications. His surgery is scheduled for May 19th. Although this is an outpatient procedure, he will still have to be put under anesthesia. We ask that you would please pray that the procedure goes well and that he heals quickly. I was able to get a physical done just to make sure that I was healthy since I had not been to the doctor since 2005. Praise the Lord that I have a full bill of health. The doctor, who is a professing christian, even prayed with me at the end of my visit. Julie and the kids are doing well, although a bit tired from traveling. All in all, we are blessed with good health. Thank you for continually praying for this constant need. We do not want to take this blessing for granted.

Furlough coming to a conclusion

This past month, we took part in 4 back-to-back missions conferences and several individual meetings with supporting churches and new churches. We are thankful for the new friends we made and the encouragement we have experienced along the way from old friends. Our traveling will be reduced a bit for the remainder of our furlough and we'll take advantage of the in between meeting times to prepare for our return to Burkina Faso. We still have a few openings if anyone would like for us to present or report in your church.

Update on Bienvenu

I remember when Bienvenu said that there was no future for him in the city and that he needed to go back to the village to help his family in the fields. Bienvenu was the young man that we were training for the ministry and I asked him recently, after everything that transpired last year, if he still sensed the call to be a pastor, to which he replied « no. » This is a setback, but we know that God has a plan. We are encouraged with Bienvenu because, although he does not sense the call to pastor, he did affirm his desire to be involved in ministry and help the pastor in the ministry, which he is currently doing. He will be a wonderful laymen to support the work of the ministry. We are thankful that after helping Bienvenu with his education through a private university, he has used his learned skills well and has become a business man. He received a work contract for a local company and has started a small business of his own where he sells in the city the harvest that his family has gathered at the village. He is thrilled to be in a position where he is able to tithe and give offerings to support the church. As we rejoice with him, please help us pray that he would not become too important for church, but that he would stay humble and grateful to the Lord for His blessings.



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

Stephen & Julie Knickerbocker

“The wind bloweth where it listeth, and thou hearest the sound thereof, but canst not tell whence it cometh, and whither it goeth: so is every one that is born of the Spirit.” - John 3:8

Prayer Requests

- Minor surgery on Korben
- Safety as we travel
- Scheduling meetings for furlough in 2021
- Bienvenu and Mamadou as they lead the church in our absence
- Translation work
- Training of the faithful men of the church
- Safety and wisdom for church construction project
- The fight against terrorism
- Spiritual and physical growth of the church
- A stable job for Vincent, David, and Serge
- Spiritual growth of Choucrat
- Salvation of Ivette

Praise Report

- Bienvenu has a stable job and started a business that is successful.
- The whole family is healthy.
- Safety on the roads
- Alina and Kezia have behaved
- Churches gave extra funds to help our transition back to Burkina.

Contact Information

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Sending Church

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templebaptistchurch.com

Missions Agency

WWNTBM
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Birthdays

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