

The **KNICKERBOCKER** family

church planting in Burkina Faso

April 2022

Dear Pastors, supporting churches and praying friends,

Julie's final interview

We praise the Lord for an answer to prayer! Our immigration attorney had filed an application for Julie's naturalization process to be expedited. We received an official letter from the USCIS office stating that Julie's final interview for US citizenship is set for May 20th. This is 4 months before the expected timeframe we were originally given! We finally have a timetable for returning to Burkina Faso as a family and are praying to be on the field by September 2022. Please help us pray that the interview will go well, that she will be granted citizenship that same day, that there will be no delays with the rest of the paperwork after the interview and that her passport will come in a timely manner. Help us pray as well for a smooth transition back to Burkina as a family. Thank you to all those who have taken to heart this need and prayed with us for years for this burden to be lifted.

New outreach

A number of exciting things have been happening with Adama in Burkina Faso. He has been inviting people from his neighborhood to church and we have seen souls saved through his zeal to share the Gospel. When I started discipling him, he expressed his desire to share the Gospel with his neighbors. Because of the amount of people interested in coming to church, we started a prayer meeting and Bible study time on his property. One of the people Adama shared a Gospel tract with was a young lady named Salamata. I was surprised to find out that it was in passing that he invited her without knowing who she was. She gladly received the invitation and actually came to the bible study. She has also been coming to church, which is a big step, since she had never set foot on any type of church property. She is of muslim faith and although her parents were not aware of her interest in christianity, when they found out, they let her keep coming to church. I asked her about her faith in Christ and she said that she trusted Christ as her Savior at the first Bible study we held in Adama's courtyard. Since the first meeting, we have built an African style hangar on Adama's property so that people may come and meet under it for Bible study and prayer. We are excited to see what God will be doing through this new outreach.



Adama with his friends and neighbors at church

Adama's restoration

On Easter Sunday, Adama was telling me that he was at odds with his mother and wanted desperately to reconcile with her. I asked him if we could visit her right away to which he replied "Yes" without hesitation. He explained to me that he said some extremely bad things to his mother about 5 months ago while under the influence of alcohol. But now that he had trusted Christ, he desired to ask her forgiveness. When we arrived on the property, we were greeted with a sour and bitter look from his mother. We proceeded to enter, and for about 15 minutes, she would have nothing to do with her son, even though he was accompanied by someone. Eventually, I took on the role of mediator and approached a sister that was present. I explained to her how Adama had become a Christian and how he wanted to restore his fellowship with his mother. The sister went over to the mother to explain the situation and, although still reluctant, she approached us and sat down with us. I introduced myself and explained the change in her son and how he was asking for her to forgive him. She extended her hand to her humble son who was bowing in repentance and they grabbed a hold of each other. Just as a newborn is held by its mother, Adama was held by his mother in the most intimate, precious and loving way. Adama could not stop crying for joy and the grim atmosphere was dramatically turned into the heavenly bliss of a mother/son fellowship renewed on Resurrection Sunday. Praise the Lord for the power of the resurrection!

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

Stephen & Julie Knickerbocker

"Your father Abraham rejoiced to see my day: and he saw it, and was glad. - John 8:56

Prayer Requests

- Julie's interview in May
- Our transition back to Burkina as a family
- Training Serge for the ministry
- Spiritual growth of Valentin, Michel, Adama and Salamata
- Julie as she stays States side with the children
- Korben, Alina, and Julie's visa
- Completion of building project
- Training of the faithful men of the church
- Spiritual and physical growth of the church
- A stable job for Vincent and David
- The fight against terrorism

Praise Report

- Julie's final interview is scheduled
- Should be back in Burkina as a family by September
- Adama bringing many visitors to church
- Salamata's salvation
- Adama's reconciliation with his mother
- Serge got a job

Contact Information

knickinburkina@gmail.com
knickinburkinafaso.com

Field Address:

Stephen Knickerbocker
10 BP 13671 Ouagadougou 10
Burkina Faso
Field Phone Number:
(226) 57-82-12-28

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
Korben 12/7
Anniversary 8/7