

# The KNICKERBOCKER family

## church planting in Burkina Faso

**September 2022**

Dear Pastors, supporting churches and praying friends,

### Approved!

We praise the Lord that after many years of prayers and many months of waiting, we have finally been informed by the United States government that the extra papers and evidence we submitted for Julie's citizenship have been approved. She is officially in line to be sworn in as an American citizen. We are now awaiting the official letter with her court date to become an American citizen. Praise the Lord for this wonderful answer to prayers!



### Conference in SC

We attended a missions conference in the beginning of this month and were so encouraged that the conference was themed on reaching the continent of Africa. This church found our information and reached out to us to take part in their conference, along with several other missionaries serving in Africa. It was a joy to meet the members and to have many commit to pray for our family and ministry. On that note, another church contacted us near the end of the month and asked us for our information as they desired to support us financially without requiring us to visit. We found out a week later that that church voted unanimously to take us on for prayer and financial support. Praise the Lord for faithful Christian and churches who love and support missionaries!

### Coup within the coup

My return to Burkina Faso was sandwiched between an airport strike and a coup d'état. I arrived on the last Thursday of September and the next day at 4 a.m., shots were fired throughout Ouagadougou. These disruptions of the peace were reported to be in military camps as the result of a mutiny. That evening, a group of soldiers made an appearance on the Burkinabe national television stating that president Damiba was removed from power and that a new leader was chosen. This coup took place 8 months after the previous coup that had placed Mr. Damiba as the leader of the nation. Some are calling this the "coup within the coup." Thankfully, the previous coup leader has resigned peacefully and activities in the capital city have resumed as usual. Since Mr. Damiba took power 8 months ago, the military deemed that the security in Burkina Faso had not improved like the leader promised it would. Although terrorism is absent in the capital city, the terrorist groups are gaining ground around the country. Please pray for the security issues facing the country and for the new leader to be wise in unifying the Burkinabé people for the restoration of security in the regions affected.

### Discord resolved

It is with a grateful heart that we inform you that the problem mentioned in the July prayer letter was resolved. There was a wolf in sheep's clothing who was attempting to cause conflicts. He has been identified and has been dealt with firmly and compassionately. Adama has reassured me that his desire to stay faithful remains strong and that he had resumed Bible studies with a few men who are still interested in growing by faith.



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

*Stephen & Julie Knickerbocker*

*"And of whom hast thou been afraid or feared, that thou hast lied,  
and hast not remembered me, nor laid it to thy heart?..." - Isaiah 57:11*

### Prayer Requests

- Our transition back to Burkina as a family (**in January 2023**)
- New President Traoré**
- Serge employer has him work on some Sundays**
- Training Serge for the ministry
- Spiritual growth of Valentin, Michel, Adama, Salamata, and Rodrigue
- Training of the faithful men of the church
- Spiritual and physical growth of the church
- A stable job for Vincent, David, and Adama
- The fight against terrorism
- Adama's mother's health
- The Bible study of Saaba

### Praise Report

**-Julie's application for citizenship was finally approved**

- Encouraging conference in SC
- Discord in church resolved
- Made it back to Burkina
- Transition of power went well
- New supporting church

### 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  
Kezia 5/26  
Korben 12/7  
Anniversary 8/7