

# The **KNICKERBOCKER** family

church planting in Burkina Faso

**June 2023**

Dear Pastors, supporting churches and praying friends,

## Family adventures

We had an eventful month with the children. Kezia started it all with a minor wrist fracture. She was playing and fell awkwardly on her wrist. Thankfully, after 3 weeks in a cast, the fracture was healed and she was able to begin using her arm again. A lot more could be said on the hospital experience in this third world country, but we'll leave it at that and simply say that we are thankful that God has given us sweet friends who were able to help us with the entire ordeal.

As soon as Kezia's cast came off, I took Korben on a bicycle ride and his foot got caught in the wheel, which removed a thick layer of his skin at the heel. We were able to clean and bandage it well, and he has been healing without complications or infections. Although we were able to avoid going to the hospital for this specific incident, it has definitely slowed him down from his normal rhythm and we've had to make adjustments to our schedule to make sure his wound heals properly.

We praise God that Alina is in full health! We took her to the village on a day where the men of the church gathered to help David till the fields and plant his crops. Alina loved being at the village! She helped sow seeds and played with bugs. At one point I ask Alina if she enjoyed working in the fields, to which she replied: "yes, but it's a little hard."



## Father's day

Father's day was truly special at the church this year. I preached a two-part message on the subject of being a glorious father whose presence encourages and brings joy to his children. We were also privileged to recognize several fathers present in the service. It is an honor to work with the fathers in the church and to help them walk with God as they, in turn, strive to lead their family to walk with God.

## A 2nd church plant

**It is exciting to inform everyone that we are starting to raise funds for a second church plant!** The bible study on Adama's property is doing well and I have started discipling the group to be the charter members of the new church. I have also added Adama to the pastoral training group, which includes David, Omar, and Bienvenu.

Any donations for the 2nd church plant may be given to our missions agency address (**WWNTBM, P.O. Box 725, Kings Mountain, NC 28086**) with a note specifying that it is "for the 2nd church plant of the Knickerbockers in Burkina Faso." We will be raising funds for the purchase of a property and the building of a church facility. We're estimating \$30,000 for a property and \$20,000 for the building. Thus, the total for the 2nd church plant is \$50,000. Donations may also be made online at <https://wwntbm.com/connect/missionaries/stephen-and-julie-knickerbocker/>.

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

*Stephen & Julie Knickerbocker*

*"Children's children are the crown of old men;  
and the glory of children are their fathers." - Proverbs 17:6*

## Prayer Requests

- President Traoré
- The fight against terrorism
- Training **Omar, Adama**, David and Bienvenu for the ministry
- Spiritual growth of Michel Balima and **Michel Ouedraogo**
- Blaise is serving in the military volunteers
- Training of the faithful men of the church
- Spiritual and physical growth of the church
- A stable job for Vincent
- Adama's mother's health
- The Bible study of Saaba
- More members involved in outreach

## Praise Report

- Kezia's fracture healed quickly
- Korben's heel healed quickly
- A wonderful Father's day
- The group in Saaba has started to put money aside for the church
- Omar and Safi gave birth to a boy named Rodolphe
- We are beginning to raise funds for the 2nd church plant

## Contact Information

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## Field Address:

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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

