

The **KNICKERBOCKER** family

church planting in Burkina Faso

September 2023

Dear Pastors, supporting churches and praying friends,

Saying goodbye

Early in the month, two of our most faithful members were brought before the church and thanked for their faithfulness and involvement in ministry. Christine and Judith were both charter members of the church. Being from the neighboring country of Togo, the time came for them to return home. Although it was not easy to see them leave, we are thankful for their testimonies and leadership among the ladies of the church. Christine served as treasurer and both of them helped out in soul winning efforts. We're also thankful that their hometown in Togo has a local Baptist church that we were able to recommend. They have settled in their new home and have started attending that local assembly. Since they left a void in our church, we praise God that since their departure, we've seen some new folks attend the church regularly and we've also noticed an increase in attendance.

God will provide!

One of our church members has a welding company that has brought a good level of success. Because he was put under pressure to move from where he is currently living, he has invested too much in the building of his own home, which has led to lack of money in completing a big contract. He came to me to ask for a loan for several thousands of dollars, and after praying with him and counseling him, I let him know that it was best to give the Lord some time to work on the situation, even if it seemed to be unsurmountable. A week later, he called me to let me know that he had an old client who paid the rest of a contract that had not been paid for, and he now has enough funds to complete the big contract. It was encouraging to hear this man thank me for helping him learn to wait on the Lord. In fact, this month Julie and I sang "God will provide" as a duet during one of the church services. It was very fitting as we've seen the Lord answer many prayers and provide for many of the church members individually.

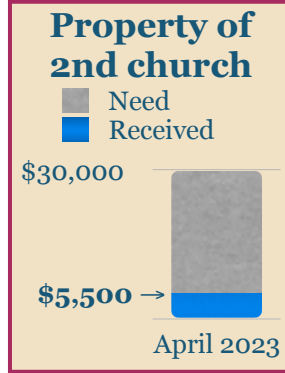
Mariage counseling

A young man in the church has approached me expressing interest in a young lady that he had shared a Gospel tract with while he was returning home. Since she was a christian as well, he's had several conversations with her since their first encounter and has told me that he would want to see if it is God's will for them to get married. This was a great encouragement to me. He's the first young man in the church that desires for me to accompany him through the process of seeing if his friendship could lead to a marriage union. Hence, we have began meeting together to teach on the marriage union and give counsel on how to have mature conversations about important topics that could lead to longterm issues and prepare for marriage. Please pray for this young man and his friend who will remain anonymous at this time.

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

Stephen & Julie Knickerbocker

"Thine, O LORD, is the greatness, and the power, and the glory, and the victory, and the majesty: for all that is in the heaven and in the earth is thine; thine is the kingdom, O LORD, and thou art exalted as head above all." - 1 Chronicles 29:11



Prayer Requests

- Funds for 2nd church plant
- President Traoré
- The fight against terrorism
- Training Omar, Adama, David and Bienvenu for the ministry
- Spiritual growth of Ali Ouedraogo, 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
- Adama's mother's health
- The Bible study of Saaba
- More members involved in outreach
- The start of a Bible study by David

Praise Report

- We celebrated Stephen's and Julie's birthdays
- First full month of homeschool completed with Kezia and Alina
- 2 more donations for the 2nd church plant!
- New folks attending regularly

Contact Information

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Sending Church

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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