

The **KNICKERBOCKER** family

church planting in Burkina Faso

December 2023



Dear Pastors, supporting churches and praying friends,

David and Pegdewende

It is exciting to share with everyone that David has found a companion for life. After several sessions of marriage counseling, it appears that it is God's will for David and Pegdewende to be united in marriage. When asked what she thought about David's desire to be a pastor, Pegde replied that "as long as he walks with God, that's all that matters." We are so excited to see what God will do with these two who love God and desire to serve the Him together.

Please pray for them as there is much preparation to be made before the wedding day.

Our pastor's home going

After a full life of service to our Lord, pastor Clarence Sexton went home to be with his Savior on the 12th of December 2023. We are thankful that I was able to make a quick trip to the USA to attend the memorial service and communicate our love and prayers to Mrs. Sexton. Julie and I are grateful to God for the influence of Pastor and Mrs. Sexton on our lives. Under the ministry of pastor, I was called to preach, attended Crown College, met my wife, was called to be a church planter and was ordained to the Gospel ministry. Pastor and Mrs. Sexton are very precious to us and although we grieve with the Sexton family, we are thankful that we'll see pastor again in glory one day. One of my favorite memories with my pastor was when, after giving me the opportunity to preach for the faithful men's meeting of 2020, he told me "I am so thrilled. When I hear you taking the word of God and explaining it to me like that, I feel like my life is not in vain." If you would like to view the full video of that meeting you may do so at the following link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=51yoau4Lg1Y>.

Please pray for Mrs. Sexton, the family and friends as we grieve the absence of pastor Sexton.



Christmas and New Year celebrations

Our Christmas and new Year celebrations were extra special this year because we had four baptism on Christmas Sunday morning! We were also able to have tile installed throughout the property earlier in the month. We are thankful for the church folks who contributed to this project. We are excited about the next project of completing the paint inside of the auditorium. We were shocked that the church of Tabtenga donated some of the money that they have collected to help

complete the inside of the auditorium. They don't even have their own property but they wanted to participate in helping us complete the work on the church facility. Praise the Lord!

In honor of Pastor Sexton, I've introduced our church to his life's verse (Acts 5:42) which will be the theme of our church for the year 2024.

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

Stephen & Julie Knickerbocker

"And daily in the temple, and in every house, they ceased not to teach and preach Jesus Christ." - Acts 5:42



Prayer Requests

- Funds for 2nd church plant
- The beginning of Bible Baptist Church of Tabtenga
- President Traoré
- The fight against terrorism
- Training David and Bienvenu for the ministry
- Spiritual growth of **Jacob Zongo**, Arsène Kaboré, Arouna Nabie 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
- More members involved in outreach
- Strong couples in the church

Praise Report

- 2 more churches contributed to the new church plant
- A family in the church dedicated their children to the Lord
- Korben recovered well from a fall on his chin which required a stitch on his 3rd birthday

Contact Information

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Sending Church

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Powell, TN 37849
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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