

# The **KNICKERBOCKER** family

church planting in Burkina Faso

**February 2025**

Dear Pastors, supporting churches and praying friends,

## A new disciple

Last year, while we were doing outreach on the side of the road, we met a young believer by the name of Souleymane (Solomon) who was encouraged by our efforts to advance the Gospel. We found out that he loves to go into villages to share the Gospel with the lost. He attended a protestant church, but at the end of last year, he expressed frustration in the lack of spiritual progress in his life. He said that he had read some of the booklets that we have produced and has greatly enjoyed their refreshing contents. I responded by saying that he should meet with his pastor and express his concerns and his desire to grow in the faith in another church. His pastor was aware of his desire to become a pastor and was understanding of the situation. Thus, Souleymane has decided to join our church and be a part of our ministry. He has a zeal for sharing the Gospel and has fit right in with the men of the church. He has a teachable spirit and a love for God's word. He is going through the new member's class and we are discussing the differences between baptist doctrine and that of other denominations. He has already helped with several outreach opportunities and is willing to help out in any way he can. Pray for Souleymane as we work together and train him for the pastoral ministry.



## Couple's meeting

We organized a couple's meeting around valentine's day to help the couples from both churches be strengthened in their faith and in their marriage. We were thrilled to be joined by two new couples this year, one from Tabtenga and one from Boulmiougou. We had a special time of fellowship, food, Bible teaching and games, all geared to encourage each couple to live harmoniously at home. Please help us pray that these families will be strongly rooted in Christ.

## ...lest any man spoil you

We count it all joy to invest our lives and influence for the furtherance of the Gospel in Burkina Faso and are thankful for the burkinabé that have answered the call to the ministry and are being trained for the ministry. Unfortunately, we inform everyone that one of our pastors in training, Bienvenu, has left our church to start his own work. Although propagating the Gospel and starting new church plants is our goal, he has no intentions to associate with us and has refused to be sent under our local church. Over the years, we have noticed that he has been leaning toward the prosperity gospel and other errors which he has adopted from listening to protestant preachers online. The last few months have been difficult for both our family and the faithful members of both church plants. We've done our best to deal appropriately with this situation. We are comforted in the fact that we know the truth and we will continue to advance the cause of Christ with the others that are remaining faithful to the Scriptures. We are praying that Bienvenu will be convicted by the word of God of the error of his ways and repent. By faith, we anticipate his return. Although this seems to be a setback, « *we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose* » (Romans 8:28). We would appreciate your prayers for Bienvenu. Thank you.

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

*Stephen & Julie Knickerbocker*

*“Come, and let us go over unto the garrison of these uncircumcised: it may be that the LORD will work for us: for there is no restraint to the LORD to save by many or by few.” - 2 Samuel 14:6*

## Prayer Requests

- The completion of the church building of Tabtenga
- President Traoré
- The fight against terrorism
- Training David, Jean, **Germain Souleymane** for the ministry
- Spiritual growth of Lamine, Paterne, and Anassa
- Spiritual and physical growth of the churches
- More members involved in outreach
- Kids' club ministry
- Ordination of David
- Ouagadougou School of the Bible
- The return of Bienvenu**

## Praise Report

- Souleymane, a new disciple to trained for the ministry
- The opportunity to share the Gospel on a university campus
- 2 first time couples for the couples' meeting
- The school of the Bible is doing well.
- We recorded 30 kids who attended every kid's club for the month of February

## Contact Information

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## Sending Church

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## Missions Agency

WWNTBM  
P.O. Box 725  
Kings Mountain, NC 28086  
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## Birthdays

Stephen 9/15  
Julie 9/26  
Alina 8/12  
Kezia 5/26  
Korben 12/7  
Anniversary 8/7