

# The **KNICKERBOCKER** family

## church planting in Burkina Faso

**May 2025**

Dear Pastors, supporting churches and praying friends,

### Family vacation

Before the end of April, we flew to France to visit family. We then flew to the United Kingdom, at which point we renewed fellowship with missionary friends in Liverpool, Londonderry and Birmingham. Being in Liverpool and Birmingham gave us the opportunity to see what God has been doing in England through the ministry of our home church, Temple Baptist Church, these last 15 years. We were so encouraged by the way the many missionaries and local pastors are working together to reach the UK, and by how God is using the Crown Hall to train pastors and Christian workers in that part of the world. What a precious and refreshing time it was to share about the challenges and blessings of our respective ministries with friends who understand full time ministry work. We are thankful for the memories that we were able to make as a family. It was particularly nice to see our children, now that they are old enough, enjoy traveling, sightseeing, and interacting with old and new friends. We praise the Lord that I was given the privilege to minister through testimony and preaching on seven different occasions. We also seized the opportunity to order Christian children's story books in French from a Christian book store, which we brought back to use for the children's ministry in Burkina.



### Faithful men

As we were away, we were pleased to hear that the folks of the churches of Boulmiougou and Tabtenga stayed faithful. David and Valentin were left in charge of the many different ministries associated with each church, including all the preaching and teaching. David, who is being trained to be a pastor, testified that through his time of study and sermons preparation, he noticed personal spiritual growth. We're also thankful for Valentin who faithfully assists with the kids ministry and the Sunday evening Bible study. It was great to hear church folks talk about how encouraged they were by the preaching and teaching during our absence. Praise the Lord!

### Mother's Day

We celebrated Mother's Day on the first Sunday after our return and took the time to recognize mothers and the divine role they play in the home. I preached on the courage that Rahab had to believe in a God that was foreign to her and her people. Julie also used this special holiday to host a ladies meeting, teaching on the role of the mother/wife in the home.

I am so grateful for Julie and the wonderful mother she is to the children that God has entrusted unto us. I love to see her love, care, and educate them. It is not always easy, but she is doing her best and it is making a big difference.

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

*Stephen & Julie Knickerbocker*



### 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 Dominique, Paterné, and Anassa
- Spiritual and physical growth of the churches
- More members involved in outreach
- Strong couples in the church
- Kids' club ministry and
- Ordination of David
- upcoming VBS for both churches**
- Upcoming camp weeks**
- Special summer classes for the pastors in training on Tuesdays.**

### Praise Report

- A refreshing and encouraging family time in France and the UK
- Many opportunities to minister while away
- Faithfulness of the folks in Burkina

### Contact Information

knickinburkina@gmail.com  
knickinburkinafaso.com

### Field Address:

Stephen Knickerbocker  
10 BP 13671 Ouagadougou 10  
Burkina Faso  
Field Phone Number:  
(226) 57-82-12-28

### Sending Church

Temple Baptist Church  
Pastor Derrick Morlan  
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

*"For they all made us afraid, saying, Their hands shall be weakened from the work, that it be not done.*

*Now therefore, O God, strengthen my hands." - Nehemiah 6:9*