

# The **KNICKERBOCKER** family

church planting in Burkina Faso

**July 2025**

Dear Pastors, supporting churches and praying friends,

## First VBS at Tabtenga

Starting a weekly kids club as a ministry of the church in Tabtenga has been on our hearts for a while. What a grand start it had! We organized a three day children's conference to initiate the weekly kids club ministry and we were excited about the possibility of many children coming and hearing the Gospel for the first time. On the first day, we distributed invitations in the community to introduce this new ministry. At first, a handful of children came before the canvassing teams returned. Then, little by little, children came from every direction, and before long the church property was bustling with young people from infants, to teenagers, and even mothers! We had prayed for and anticipated a large number of children, and the Lord answered by sending more than we anticipated! A team of volunteers from the church in Boulmiougou came to help organize the conference, but we could've used even more workers. We had 140+ children registered on the first day. Praise the Lord that many of these precious souls, after hearing a clear Gospel presentation, raised their hand during the invitation and prayed to trust Jesus as Savior! The second and third day of the conference were well attended as well with over 160 children. It was tough to count them all as they just kept coming in, even after registration had closed. To our big surprise, 4 mothers from the neighborhood attended with their children and were very helpful in keeping the children calm and organized during the program. Their presence and help made it easier on us to work with the children. The Lord knew we needed help and He provided it in a way only He could do. The children who attended all three days of the conference were gifted a kid's club t-shirt, and they absolutely loved it!

Since the children's conference, we've already held a couple of Friday afternoon kid's club meetings and attendance has steadily stayed over 100 children. Since the regular club days are not a special conference, the help of volunteers has decreased, but the need for them is still there. Please help us pray for more laborers from the local church of Tabtenga to give their time to help us bring children to Jesus. We plan to maintain this ministry, with the help of a few faithful workers from Tabtenga and Boulmiougou, every Friday afternoon. We are having a great time with the children, singing Bible songs, playing fun games, memorizing Bible verses, and teaching Bible stories. Please pray that the Lord would renew us physically and spiritually to help the children walk with God and discover His plan for their lives.



## Construction update

While we're on the subject of Tabtenga, we are grateful to report that the construction of the building has been completed. The final phase will be the installation of a solar system, which will provide lighting, ventilation, and sound. We desire to express our deepest gratitude to all the churches and individuals who have given sacrificially to help us have a property and build a building where we can meet to advance the cause of Christ in the community of Tabtenga.

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

*Stephen & Julie Knickerbocker*

*"And I will break the pride of your power; and I will make your heaven as iron, and your earth as brass." - Leviticus 26:19*



## Prayer Requests

- The completion of the building project at Tabtenga (last phase: solar installation)
- President Traoré
- The fight against terrorism
- Training David, Jean, Germain Souleymane for the ministry
- Spiritual growth of Paterné, and Anassa
- Spiritual and physical growth of the churches
- More members involved in outreach
- Strong couples in the church
- Kids' club ministry
- Upcoming camp weeks
- Special summer classes for the pastors in training on Tuesdays.
- More volunteers for the Tabtenga kids ministry

## Praise Report

- Big success of the first Tabtenga VBS
- Having a great edifying time with the pastors in training
- Julie was very ill, but recovered completely

## Contact Information

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## Sending Church

Temple Baptist Church  
Pastor Derrick Morlan  
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Powell, TN 37849  
(865) 938-8182  
templebaptistchurch.com

## 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