

# STEPHEN & JULIE KNICKERBOCKER BURKINA FASO

**March 2015**

Dear Pastors, supporting churches and praying friends,

## Trip to Babo

Several months ago, during one of the quarterly Pastor's fellowship, a national Pastor named Daniel asked me to come and preach to his congregation about the church supporting its pastor. Earlier this month, I had the privilege to travel to the village of Babo, which is about four hours north of where we live. Another national pastor heard of the upcoming trip and wished to accompany me. This was convenient because I had no idea how to get to that village and, at the same time, I now had a friend to fellowship with along the journey. During our time there I enjoyed touring the village, playing with the children, handing out donated dresses for little girls, grinding millet, eating wild cat, fellowshiping with the folks of the church and trying to encourage the ministry there. We arrived on a Saturday and I preached on Sunday morning out of Hebrews 13:17. This study encouraged me as I was reminded that as the Lord leads, we will have the privilege to start a church, see it mature in Christ and understand the position of the pastor in the church. We returned to Ouagadougou Sunday afternoon, after which I began preparing for another trip.



## Mission Trip to Ivory Coast

After coming back from a weekend in Babo, I was invited to travel to Ivory Coast on a ten day trip with brother Keith Shumaker. We took several of the national pastors with us, and enjoyed fellowship, different foods, and many good church services. While there, Brother Keith preached for a missions Conference, and we visited earlier works that had been started and are still going strong while He ministered in Ivory Coast. I was asked to preach in a small village on Sunday morning, but could not make it because I became ill from eating too much local fofou and foutou. Adjusting to new foods is a difficult reality- keep praying for us in this matter! This trip also gave me the opportunity to visit different ministries that were started by other missionaries and that had been transitioned to national pastors. It was a valuable experience learning from well established ministries in other parts of West Africa. I came home encouraged for the work of the Lord in Burkina Faso and cannot wait to see what will happen in the future!

## Women's day

Every year around the world, March the 8th is celebrated as International Women's Day. For most of us in America, this is not a celebrated holiday, but in Burkina Faso, people go all out to celebrate! A new fabric comes out every year and families all over the country will get special outfits made from it. The men will typically go to the market and cook for their ladies. Churches are also expected to do something special. It was a blessing for Julie to learn, participate and see how Rebecca Shumaker and the church ladies organized a fun day of games, teachings, songs, theater and a meal! We are eager to one day plan our own Women's Day activities with our church ladies. Also, while I was gone, Julie had the opportunity to teach 1st-2nd grade at a homeschool group for two weeks. Although it was hard work, she loved the time she could spend doing something she loves- teaching children!

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

*Stephen & Julie Knickerbocker*

*"Obey them that have the rule over you, and submit yourselves:  
for they watch for your souls" - Hebrews 13:17*

## Prayer Requests

- Continued health
- Moré classes
- Bible studies with: Victor, Paul, Denise, Amos, Sylvain, Félicité and Angele, Aimer, **Edgard** (new)
- We may have the opportunity to do an evangelistic outreach in a village near the Ghana border.
- We are teaching new songs to the youth choir.
- We have begun a new study for the teens on "Charity" out of I Cor. 13
- Still planning out meetings and events for our short trip to the USA on June 15th- August 7th.

## Praises

- Julie ICO teaching went well
- I had an encouraging trip to Babo and Ivory Coast
- The children's Bible club is going great: the kids have learned 3 songs and many have memorized several Bible verses.
- I began sharing my testimony in the Moré language.
- We are encouraged by the growth we see in our bible study contacts. We are about to complete a 13 lesson study with Denise.

## Contact Information

knickinburkina@gmail.com  
[knickinburkinafaso.com](http://knickinburkinafaso.com)

## Field Address:

Stephen Knickerbocker  
10 BP 13671 Ouagadougou 10  
Burkina Faso  
Field Phone Number:  
(226) 67-40-36-19

## Sending Church

Temple Baptist Church  
Pastor Clarence Sexton  
1700 W. Beaver Creek Dr.  
Powell, TN 37849  
(865) 938-8182  
[templebaptistchurch.com](http://templebaptistchurch.com)

## Missions Agency

WWNTBM  
P.O. Box 725  
Kings Mountain, NC 28086  
[wwntbm.com](http://wwntbm.com)

## Birthdays

Stephen 9/15  
Julie 9/26  
Anniversary 8/7