

The **KNICKERBOCKER** family

church planting in Burkina Faso

March 2026

Dear Pastors, supporting churches and praying friends,

Back in Burkina

I returned to Burkina on March 3rd. I Praise the Lord for good flights on which I was able to rest before « hitting the ground running » with ministry in Burkina. As soon as I returned home, I began preparing for the evening school of the Bible classes that I would be teaching that same evening. I was happy to get back to our place of service, but greatly saddened to leave my wife and children behind in America. Thankfully, I am busy with leading two churches, which makes time pass rapidly. Although there are moments of loneliness, there are exciting things taking place. We are seeing first-time visitors coming, members growing, Gospel efforts persevering, professions of faith happening, and God's faithfulness enduring. I call Julie and the kids twice a day and do Bible class with the children via video calls Monday through Friday. One of the most encouraging accomplishment in Burkina has been the progress of the kids' ministry at Tabtenga. We gave the children a Gospel presentation to memorize, and within a week, a handful of kids recited the presentation before the church. Many of these kids have also been accompanying us on our Gospel outreach efforts. Germain Yameogo, one of the pastors in training at Tabtenga, has also started teaching and preaching. He has zeal and initiative, and it has been encouraging to see him progress in his faith and in the work of the ministry. I could easily see him leading the church in Tabtenga longterm if the Lord leads that way.



Update on diplomacy

Although the Burkinabé government is still not processing visas for US citizens at this time, the US has sent a diplomat to talk through the common interests of the two nations and it seems like the meeting went well, but it has not yet yielded fruit for visas to be processed again. Please keep praying that the diplomacy would progress to the level that would allow us to be approved for visa renewals. Julie and I are weighing our options to see how to proceed wisely during this period of uncertainty and separation for our family.

New work in Pitmoaga

Jean Kaboré, who is another pastor in training at Tabtenga, has had the burden to start a church in his home village of Pitmoaga. This village is located about an hour west of the capital. Jean said that 5 men wanted a Bible and others were interested in attending a weekly Bible study. Because of Jean's burden and interest in that location, we finally sat down together with other pastors in training to discuss what could be done. The Lord has led us to begin a weekly Bible study in Pitmoaga that would be led by David Nassa, who is getting ready to be ordained to the Gospel ministry. We held a first Bible study on the last Friday of the month and it exceeded our expectations. Twelve men attended the meeting and five of them raised their hand to pray to trust Christ as their personal Savior. Praise the Lord! Pray for David and Jean as they'll continue to work with this new initiative together. We are excited to see what the Lord will do through this Bible study.



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

Stephen & Julie Knickerbocker

*"The mouth of a righteous man is a well of life:
but violence covereth the mouth of the wicked." - Proverbs 10:11*

Prayer Requests

- President Traoré and the fight against terrorism
- Pastoral training of David, Jean, Germain, William & Emmanuel
- Spiritual growth of Paterné, Anassa and Amed
- Spiritual and physical growth of the churches
- More members involved in outreach
- Kids' club ministries
- Evening School of the Bible
- Improved diplomacy between the US and Burkina**
- Next trip to America: April 22nd
- Junior Camp fund raiser : \$3,350 donated of the \$4,000**

Praise Report

- Had a good return trip to Burkina
- Germain is helping to teach @ Tabtenga
- The children finished another year of homeschooling.
- A US diplomat met with a Burkinabé representative to talk about future cooperation
- Started a weekly Bible study in the village of Pitmoaga
- 5 confessed Christ as Savior

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Sending Church

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Missions Agency

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Birthdays

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