

# the RISHEL FAMILY

CHURCH PLANTING MISSIONARIES IN BURKINA FASO, WEST AFRICA

Dear faithful ministry partner,

April 2026

In a recent decision, the president of Burkina Faso released an updated list of government recognized holidays. While still recognizing some Christian holidays, they increased the number of recognized Muslim and animist holidays. The one holiday that was completely removed is Easter, the day when we celebrate the resurrection of Jesus. While this move is in line with the growing hostilities the government is showing towards Christians, it is a strong reminder of the power of the resurrection. **No matter how much the world wants to deny that Jesus is alive, His resurrection is a truth that cannot be canceled!**



This year, our churches made an effort to celebrate and declare the resurrection of our Lord. **By God's grace, the building for the school has been finished and we were able to host our first activities there.** In the new building, we held a special conference to study the signification of the Passover, and of Jesus being our passover lamb. On Saturday, we held an evangelistic carnival, with games setup around the property. **Over 400 people came out and it was an exciting time to see the space filled with children from the community, many hearing the Gospel for the first time!** Seeing the space filled with children also stirred our hearts with joy to see the school started. We have started recruiting the teachers for the school and are setting up to open next school year. We ask that you will pray much for the school as we get it opened. By God's grace, the building has been completed and paid for. However, there are still various things to buy, build, and put into place before we open. This includes building the bathrooms and the outer walls, painting the inside and outside of the building, and equipping the school with the desks and tables for over 200 children. In order to get the essentials finished to open the school, we need around \$17,000. We have already seen God provide for this school in miraculous ways and we know that He will continue to do it. If you would like more information about how to help, or if you would like to make a special donation to name a part of the school in honor of someone, please reach out and we'll happily send you some.



**On Easter Sunday, Pastor Augustin also held the first service for a new church** that is currently meeting in one of the classrooms of the school! They had nearly 30 adults and over 50 kids for their first Sunday. God also gave us a beautiful time of celebrating the resurrection of Jesus at Victory Baptist Church. **There were six new believers who followed the Lord in Baptism.**

We praise the Lord for our other pastors and churches who also gave exciting reports of what God did over Easter. We praise the Lord that He is continuing to build His churches!

The work for the building at the church at Finlandé is advancing. We had a work day and men from the different churches came out to help dig the foundation for the building and start the construction. God also allowed us to dig the well for the church in Finlandé. Despite a lot of opposition and obstacles, God broke through. After going down 200 meters (about 650 feet), we hit a large reserve of water that, according to the technician, is "enough for the entire village". This was a huge answer to prayer and is going to be a powerful testimony for Christ. Please continue to pray for this church and the village of Finlandé.



Thank you for all of your faithful prayers and support. We are always touched deeply by the love you all show to God's work here. May the Lord bless you and strengthen you!



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