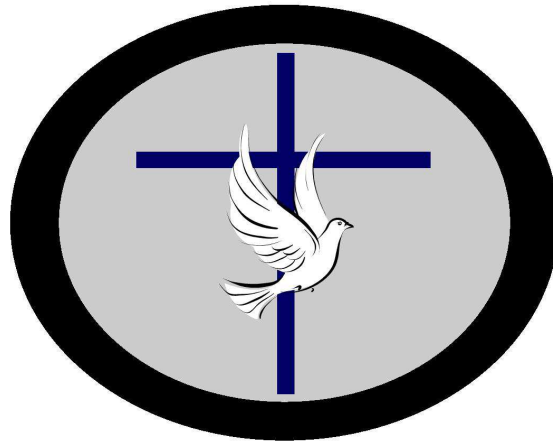


CRUSADES FOR CHRIST INTERNATIONAL



*Jesus Christ is the Way,
the Truth & the Life*



ANNUAL CRUSADE & CLINIC TEAM

TRAVELOR INFORMATION PACKET

October 27-November 8, 2013

Hello Missionaries!

Greetings from hot and sunny Ghana! We are excited about the upcoming health clinics and crusades, and are glad you are joining us on this journey. This is just a short introduction to assist you as you prepare to come, and more details will be given as the trip gets closer and when you arrive. As you read this, jot down questions and don't hesitate to email me. If there is a food, health, or other consideration that we need to be aware of, please let me know as soon as you can so we can prepare to accommodate you. Current airline policies allow for you to check two (50) pound bags along with a carry-on bag. We ask that you pack into one suitcase and the other one will be used to transport mission supplies.

We also want you to be aware that we are not wrestling against flesh and blood, but against the principalities and powers of darkness and evil. Many times we feel the attack of the enemy as we are preparing for these trips and also during them. We want you to be properly praying for your involvement on this trip, the staff of the mission, the pastors we will be working with, and the towns that we will be focusing on. We also have a document which will help you to prepare for those who will be doing the counseling (typically the men along on the trip). This will help you understand the Gospel in a clear way and ways to present it properly.

The mission of Crusades for Christ International

The ministries of CFCI are twofold: a Bible Institute and planting churches. The Bible Institute is a one year course in Biblical studies, meeting Wednesday through Friday, beginning in January with graduation in December. Students are taught 51 different courses by our Ghanaian instructors for a total of over 800 hours of instruction. Our students also participate in evangelism, service activities, and evangelistic film shows outside of the classroom. We also work with 8 different pastors who have attended our Bible school, and have church plants in Adeiso, Asamankese, Adawukwao, Bawjaise, Ayaa, Terno, and Kotoku. We will be focusing on a couple of these church plants during the crusades. These churches range in age from 3-6 years since planting, all have church land, and most are in some type of church building construction. CFCI is pleased to partner with these men.

Health Clinics and Crusades:

We are providing about 225 tickets per village for people to come to the health clinic, and we will spread this over 2 days. The tickets are given to the Pastor several weeks before, and he will hand them out to the village. We will also hand out tickets when we are doing personal evangelism in these areas. This coupon allows the patient to receive either medications OR eyeglasses, as we don't have the resources to provide both medications and eyeglasses. Then are then brought to a room where we have counselors ready to share the Gospel with them. **THIS IS THE MOST IMPORTANT PART OF THE PROCESS** and we have adjusted the schedule to make sure you have plenty of time with each patient! Do not feel rushed, even if people are in the que, and ask that you spend a minimum of 10 minutes with each one. Some are already church attendees, but some will be unbelievers or Muslim and YOU get to share the Gospel with them. Several Muslim's made professions of faith last year, and for the counselors it's a very intense time. We use a tract that has been produced by HeartCry Missionary Society, which I have included for your reference, and we also have a tract called "The way to God", which we hand out to each patient and on the streets as we do evangelism. You can use your own material as well, as God leads you. We don't want to have a prepared or scripted approach, but want you to be sensitive to the Holy Spirit to lead and guide you during this process. But you must have a clear understanding of the Gospel and be prepared to explain it to somebody that may never have heard it before! You will pray with them and invite them to the crusade that night. Collect their patient form, fill in the appropriate information, and then hand them in to the CFCI field staff. We will have translators to assist with communication, and we try to have them be Pastors or elders in the local church.

Setup requires all hands, as many hands make light work. We need to set up the eye glass station, 3 nurse's stations, and counseling area with 3 chairs for each counseling spot (patient, translator, counselor). The pastor will have chairs available for this. The local Pastor and CFCI field staff will assist with crowd management and direction. First the patient will go to the registration table, where the patient (3 and older) must present their coupon, which the staff keeps for use next year. The staff at the registration table fills out the patient form with name,

age, whether they need an eye exam OR medicine, and then direct them to the appropriate area.

The nursing stations will be manned by Ghanaian nurses, and people are needed to help retrieve medicines as needed. Nursing experience is not required, although if you are a nurse you can run your own station with the assistance of a translator. The eye glass station requires 2 people, and patients are asked to read text and the staff adjusts the different strengths to the one that helps them read the best.

At the completion of the clinic, assist with the cleanup as tables, medicines, and totes will be loaded into the van. Then the stage, lights, generator, and sound system need to be set up for the crusade. After everything is setup for the evening service, a light supper will be served on the bus. Most times crusades (or any program for that matter) don't start on the scheduled time, but worship music will begin to play and you can mingle with the gathering crowd. Most understand some English, but if not, a smile will suffice.

After the crusade, the stage, lights, sound system, and generator will be taken down. The stage goes on top of the bus and the rest into the van. Again, many hands make light work.

Be prepared to share your testimony or a word for about 5 - 10 minutes to the audience before a crusade. At least two people will be sharing before each crusade, and the people really enjoy hearing your personal experiences, conversion experience, and what has drawn you closer to God. You can share scripture or whatever God lays on your heart. We will also be singing as a group at the crusade and Sunday mornings. We will have song sheets, hymnals, keyboard, and a guitar available.

We also have one of the men sharing in group devotions during the week. Usually this is about 15-20 minutes in length and is done before we go out and do our work for the day. We normally have a later start to the day as we arrive home late, so this will allow you to have your personal devotions before we have breakfast and group devotions.

Evangelism:

We will be handing out tracts in Central Market, which is a very busy place where you will meet many different people from different countries and religions. People are very friendly and very quick to accept a tract, even sitting down and reading it right away! Be prepared to

answer some brief questions about the Gospel. We will be splitting up in groups of about 5-6 to do this. We will also be doing prayer walks, tract distribution, and evangelism in the areas surrounding our target areas.

Dress:

We ask that guests representing the mission dress in a way that honors the Lord and is considerate to those we are working with. The Ghanaian culture is very conscientious of how they look in public, and the workers at the land site will often shower and change clothes before traveling home so people do not see them in their work clothes. As a result, we ask that guests dress up when out doing ministry.

Ladies: Ladies are asked to wear the prayer veiling and wear modest apparel at all times, being extra considerate of those who you are working with. We ask that you dress up for clinics, evangelism, and crusades. For our shopping and travel days casual dress is fine. For swimming, shorts and a tee-shirt (not sleeve-less) are required over your suit. Casual dress, including modest shorts, are acceptable inside the mission compound.

Men: Men are asked to wear a dress shirt and dress pants for evangelism, clinic counseling, and crusades. Shorts are allowed inside the compound. For our shopping and travel day, jeans and tee-shirts are fine. For swimming, shorts and a tee-shirt (not sleeve-less) are required.

Children:

In past years, people brought along candy, small flashlights, pencils, and the like for the children. This is great, but it created swarms of children around the bus and staff, and many received multiple items and some received none! Our policy now is that if you want to bring gifts, we will give them to the local Pastor for distribution among the village and as rewards for assignments in Sunday school or other programs. The children love soccer balls (footballs over here), so if you want to bring some deflated we can inflate them here.

Bibles:

If you have any used Bibles you can pack in, we would use them. We never run out of a need for Bibles. The easier to read translations are especially nice, like NIV, Living, and so forth, but any Bible is welcome!

Accommodations:

Guests will stay in the current staff housing or inform us if other factors need to be considered.

Food:

We have the best cooks on staff here in Ghana! Please let us know if you have any food allergies or restrictions so we can plan accordingly. You will get to enjoy some of the classic Ghanaian dishes, and we will also be visiting some of the staff favorite restaurants. We need your help for clean-up and dish duty, and a schedule will be posted with daily responsibilities listed.

Health Considerations:

Malaria: Malaria prevention is a small pill taken every week. Please begin taking malaria prevention two weeks before you come, as well as two weeks after you return. We will have the pills here during your stay here. You can get the pills from Robert (Indiana) or Ray (Pennsylvania).

Yellow Fever: Yellow fever is serious illness. Ghana Immigration states that you need to have your vaccination before you are admitted into the country. This is enforced and you may be asked to present your yellow card when arriving at the airport in the U.S. and again upon entry into Ghana. You will need to visit a doctor to receive this at least **10 days** before you leave. You should also be up to date on your hepatitis vaccinations.

Things to bring:

- Enthusiasm to assist with the work of God here in Ghana and to win souls for Him!
- Bible
- Dress clothes for church/crusades (no jeans/tee shirts)
- Flashlight (headlights work great for cleaning up after the crusades)
- Bug spray
- Lots of snacks for munching between meals/while traveling and drink mixes for water bottles
- Modest swim wear (see dress code) and beach towel
- Money for souvenirs

Things provided:

- Pillows and bedding
- Washer to launder your clothes (your participation is required)
- Towels and washcloths
- Computer with internet access

Things to note:

- We are on a trip together. There are different personalities present, and many times others may rub us the wrong way and we need to be patient and forgiving, especially in light of the tight living spaces!
- We need each one of you! If you have an idea that would benefit the group, please inform us!
- We can change your US Dollars into the local currency, the Ghana cedi. Current exchange rates are about 2 cedis/dollar. As part of your trip cost, you will be given money for each offering.
- This culture can be difficult and seem uncivilized at times. You will be called “obruni” incessantly (white man), and people will hiss or make kissing noises at you to get your attention. Ghanaians are generally not in a hurry unless it involves them to be first in line. People urinate without a care and women nurse babies everywhere.
- People here in Ghana are very friendly, and relationships are very important to them. When addressing someone, take note if they are a pastor and address them as Pastor so and so. Other men should be referred to as Mr. and the women as Mrs.
- This is very important: when you shake hands or hand something to someone, always, always, use your right hand. Your left hand is considered your toilet hand, so try to remember to only use the right hand. Most are gracious if you forget. =)
- Be very careful of purses, cameras, iPods, and money, as they can get snatched very quickly. Some people may want to charge you to take their picture, so be aware of that and if you don't want to pay them, delete the picture or ask staff for assistance.
- Please be very cautious about handing out your U.S. contact information. If they persist, direct them to one of the field staff or the local CFCI Pastor.

- Please do not give money directly to people associated with our ministry. If you feel in your spirit you would like to give them a gift to a certain need, please make sure we know and approve of it in advance. It is much better to give on behalf of the group. For many reasons, we as a mission may have declined to give financially for a particular need, and if you give money outside our knowledge, it can lead to other requests trying to bypass the mission board.
- Many times we will be coming home very late at night and the children will be sleeping. Please keep that in mind as you play games, discuss the day, shower, ect.
- We want to keep a daily journal of our time here and send it out by email every day. Please let me know if you would like to journal or if you have email addresses that you want to add to the list.

Some Information on Ghana

Ghana, officially the Republic of Ghana, is a country in West Africa. It is bordered by Ivory Coast to the west, Burkina Faso to the north, Togo to the east and the Gulf of Guinea to the south. The word *Ghana* means "Warrior King" and is derived from the ancient Ghana Empire.

Ghana was inhabited in pre-colonial times by a number of ancient predominantly Akan kingdoms, including the inland Ashanti Empire, the Akwamu, the Akyem, the Bonoman, the Denkyira and the Fante among others. Non-Akan states created by the Ga also existed as did states by the Dagomba. Prior to contact with Europeans trade between the Akan and various African states flourished due to Akan gold wealth. Trade with European states began after contact with the Portuguese in the 15th century, and the British established the Gold Coast Crown colony in 1874 over parts but not all of the country.

The Gold Coast achieved independence from the United Kingdom in 1957, becoming the first African nation to do so, from colonialism. A global poll found that Ghana was the most religious country in the world.

Ghana is a member of the South Atlantic Peace and Cooperation Zone, the United Nations, the Commonwealth of Nations, the African Union, the Economic Community of West African States, and an associate member of La Francophonie. Ghana is one of the largest cocoa

producers in the world, and is also home to Lake Volta, the largest artificial lake in the world by surface area.

History:

There is archaeological evidence showing that humans have lived in present-day Ghana since the Bronze Age. However, until the 11th century, the majority of modern Ghana's area was largely unoccupied.

Early European contact by the Portuguese, who came to Ghana in the 15th century, focused on the extensive availability of gold. The Portuguese first landed at a coastal city inhabited by the Fante nation-state, and named the place *Elmina*. In 1481, King John II of Portugal commissioned Diogo d'Azambuja to build Elmina Castle, which was completed in 3 years.

By 1598, the Dutch had joined them, building forts at Komeda and Kormantsi. In 1617, they captured the Olini Castle from the Portuguese, and Axim in 1642 (Fort St Anthony). Other European traders had joined in by the mid-17th century, largely English, Danes and Swedes. English merchants, impressed with the gold resources in the area, named it the *Gold Coast*, while French merchants, impressed with the jewelry worn by the coastal people, named the area to the west "Côte d'Ivoire", or Ivory Coast.

More than thirty forts and castles were built by the Portuguese, Dutch, British and Spanish merchants. The Gold Coast was known for centuries as 'The White Man's Grave', because many of the Europeans who went there died of malaria and other tropical diseases. After the Dutch withdrew in 1874, Britain made the Gold Coast a protectorate. Following conquest by the British in 1896 until independence in March 1957, the territory of modern Ghana, excluding the Volta Region (British Togoland), was known as the Gold Coast.

The Flag of Ghana, consisting of the colors red, gold, green, and the black star, became the new flag in 1957. Designed by Theodosia Salome Okoh, the red represents the blood that was shed towards independence, the gold represents the mineral wealth of Ghana, the green symbolizes the rich agriculture, and the black star is the symbol of African emancipation. Formed from the merger of the Gold Coast and British (formerly German) Togoland by a United

Nations sponsored plebiscite in 1956, Ghana became the first sub-Saharan African country to gain its independence in 1957.

Kwame Nkrumah, first prime minister, and then president, after further negotiations with Britain, on 6 March 1957 at 12 a.m. Nkrumah declared Ghana "free forever".

In 2009, John Atta Mills took office as President of Ghana with a difference of about 40,000 votes (0.46%) between his party, the National Democratic Congress and the New Patriotic Party, marking the second time that power had been transferred from one legitimately elected leader to another and securing Ghana's status as a stable democracy.

In 2011, John Atta Mills won the NDC congress when he ran against Nana Konadu Agyeman Rawlings for the National Democratic Congress flagbearership. He won by 2,771 votes, representing 96.9% of the total votes cast. On 24 July 2012 John Atta Mills died unexpectedly in Accra. John Dramani Mahama, the vice-president, was sworn in as his replacement. At the election 7th December 2012, he won the election and was sworn again January 2013.

Religion:

Christianity is the country's largest religion, and predominates in southern areas and parts of the northern regions, while Islam is more widespread in parts of the northern regions. Christian–Muslim relations in Ghana are peaceful, tolerant and bilateral, without the sectarian violence of neighboring countries with similar regional divides such as Côte d'Ivoire. A declining percentage of the population practice traditional African religions.

Christianity is practiced by some 69 percent of the population, according to the 2000 census. Christianity was introduced by Europeans on the coast of Ghana in the fourteenth century, and spread with them. Christian denominations include Catholicism, Methodism, Anglicanism, Presbyterianism, Lutheranism, Seventh-Day Adventism, The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, Pentecostalism, and Baptists.

Islam is the faith of 16% of the population. It was introduced to northern Ghana by the Soninke and Dyula in the 15th century. There are four primary branches of Islam in the country: the largest group are Sunnis of the traditional Maliki school, followed by the Ahmadiyya (Ghana has the largest percentage of Ahmadis by single country in the world), and then by the Sufi

Tijani-brotherhood, who are also Sunni Malikis, and a small number of Shia in urban areas in the south. Ghana has a unique syncretistic faith, Zetahil, which combines elements of Christianity and Islam.

Traditional religion is practiced by 8.5%. There are also syncretistic groups which combine elements of Christianity or Islam with traditional beliefs.

Hinduism is administered by Ghana's Hindu Monastery headed by Swami Ghananand Saraswati. Hindu denominations include Hare Krishna, Sat Sang, and Sri Sathya Sai Baba Sera. As of 2009 there were about 10,000 African Hindus in Ghana. Hinduism is the fastest growing religion followed by Buddhism.

There are small numbers of other religions in Ghana, including Ninchiren Shoshu Sōka Gakkai, Shintoism, Bahá'í Faith, Jehovah's Witnesses, The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, Eckankar, the Divine Light Mission, the Rastafari movement, and Judaism—House of Israel (Ghana) which is practiced by among the Sefwi, a subgroup of the Akan.

Health:

As of 2009, life expectancy at birth is about 63 years for males and females with infant mortality at 51 per 1000 live births. The total fertility rate is about 4 children per woman. There are about 15 physicians and 93 nurses per 100,000 persons. 4.5% of the country's GDP was spent on health in 2003. Attempts to improve the healthcare system in Ghana are believed to have been hampered by a high rate of corruption within the Ghana Ministry of Health, Ghana Health Service and National Health Insurance Scheme (NHIS). The European Commission donated €52 million (GH¢ 110 million) in January 2012 to reduce maternal mortality and achieve the MDG 5 targets.

Geography:

Ghana is a country located on the Gulf of Guinea, only a few degrees north of the Equator, therefore giving it a warm climate. The country spans an area of 238,500 km² (92,085 sq mi). It is surrounded by Togo to the east, Côte d'Ivoire to the west, Burkina Faso to the north and the Gulf of Guinea (Atlantic Ocean) to the south.

Ghana lies between latitudes 4° and 12°N, and longitudes 4°W and 2°E. The Prime Meridian passes through the country, specifically through the industrial city of Tema. Ghana is

geographically closer to the "center" of the world than any other country even though the notional center, (0°, 0°) is located in the Atlantic Ocean approximately 614 km (382 mi) south of Accra, Ghana, in the Gulf of Guinea.

Lake Volta in Ghana is the largest reservoir in the world, extending from the Akosombo Dam in southeastern Ghana to the town of Yapei, some 400 kilometers (250 mi) to the north. The lake generates electricity, provides inland transport, and is a potentially valuable resource for irrigation and fish farming.



Demographics:

Ghana has a population of about 24 million people. Ghana's first post-independence population census, in 1960, counted about 6.7 million inhabitants. The native and largest ethnic group is Akan. 45% of the population are Akan (which includes the Fante, Akyem, Ashanti, Kwahu, Akuapem, Nzema, Bono, Akwamu, Ahanta and others). About 28 million ethnic and Akan descendants are living outside of Ghana.

Ghana is currently inhabited by 52 ethnic groups. Ghana has not seen the kind of ethnic conflict that has created civil wars in many other African countries. The official language is English; however, most Ghanaians also speak at least one local language. (source: Wikipedia.org)