



Parent Assurance Letter

May 20, 2005

Ms. Katherine Hobson
102 Chalcott Place
Summerville, SC 29485

Dear Ms. Hobson:

As Director of the *Teaching & Learning in Ghana* program and leader of this summer's trip, I want you to know how happy I am that Amanda is going to be a member of our group. This will be an incredible, life-changing experience for her; one that she will remember and profit from for years to come.

Ghana is a wonderful country, populated by the friendliest people in West Africa. It has a stable government with a democratically elected president and parliament. Its economy is strong in comparison to many African nations, its people are welcoming and generous to visitors, and its streets are safe. There are over sixty indigenous languages spoken throughout the country; however, the official language of the nation is English and all schools employ English as the principal language of instruction. Fante is the language spoken in the area of Ghana in which we will be working; but most people also are conversant in English.

This will be my fifth trip to Ghana; my third leading groups of students. We have established professional and personal relationships with many people in the capital city of Accra and in the city of Cape Coast. And they look forward to our visits each summer. Travel for the group in Accra and to and from the cities of Cape Coast and Kumasi will be by chartered bus. Within the Cape Coast area, where we will spend the majority of our time, we will travel by means of a hired *Tro Tro*, the Ghanaian version of a 12-passenger mini-van, and by local taxis.

Our Cape Coast guest house is a 5-minute taxi ride or twenty-minute walk from the University of Cape Coast where there are several internet cafes available for e-mailing. There is also a phone box at our guest house and since we will be occupying the entire facility for our Cape Coast stay, there will be ample opportunity for *TLG* participants to call home. The phone numbers I've included below are for your information and are only for use in an emergency situation.



Southern Ghana, where we will be, is predominantly “Christian” in its history and outlook. (Note the name of the fruit stand in the picture below.) In Accra, our hotel is one block from the Tesano Southern Baptist Church and we will be worshipping there with Reverend John Ankrum and his congregation while we are in the capital city. In Cape Coast, while our primary focus will be on teaching and working with school children in classrooms, we will also be seeking opportunities to engage in afternoon children’s ministries in the villages where we will be working. We are all very excited about the variety of prospects this trip holds for us.

Please do not hesitate to call or e-mail me if you have any questions as we approach our departure date of July 6, 2005. As you can see from the Itinerary, we will re-enter the U.S. at the Charlotte, N.C. international airport. Should you wish to meet Amanda there rather than in Charleston, you may do so; but we will need to know ahead of time that this is what you want to do because it will affect how Amanda goes through customs.

Cordially,

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